HISTORY OF THE ROYAL PERTH GOLFING SOCIETY

REV. T. D. MILLER, M.A.

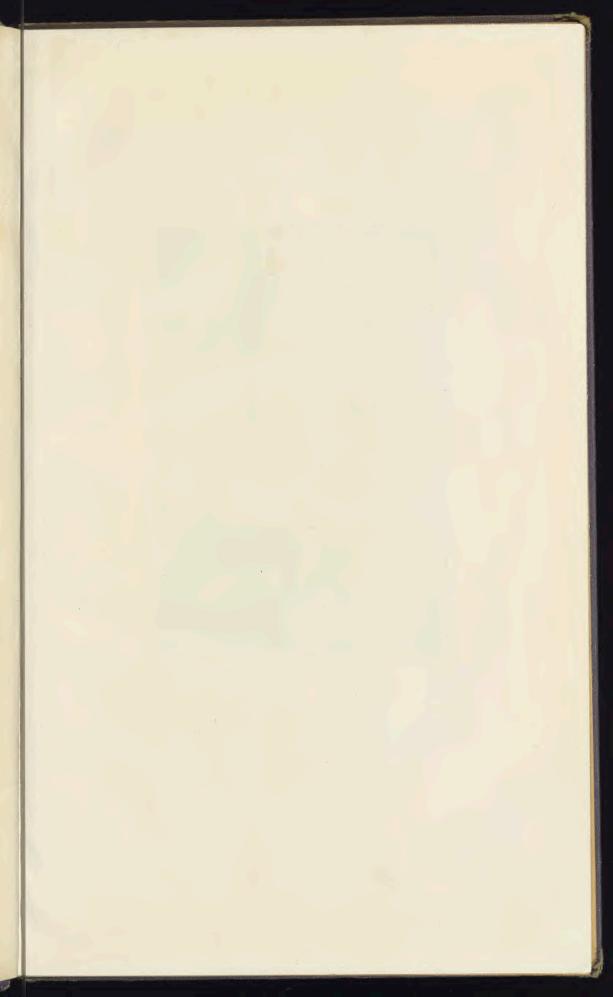


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HIS MAJESTY KING WILLIAM IV,

who, in the year 1833, on the kindly invitation of Lord Kinnaird, Captain of the Society, accepted the office of Patron and graciously acceded to the request to allow the club to be styled "The Royal Perth Golfing Society."

The History of the Royal Perth Golfing Society.

A Century of Golf in Scotland.

With a selection of the Golfing Verses (hitherto unpublished) by the late Neil Fergusson Blair, Esq., of Balthayock (1842).



Golf as it was 400 years ago. Holing out on the clubhouse green.

By

THE REV. T. D. MILLER, M.A., PERTH.

Author of "Famous Scottish Links,"
"Tales of a Highland Parish," etc., etc.

Compiled at the request of the Council of the Society.

PERTH:
THE MUNRO PRESS, LTD.,
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1935.

GOLF.

"Mysterious game! thou can enthrall The young, the old, the low, the tall; Priest, savage, soldier, hoary sage Have each confessed the noble rage . . ."

The poem then goes to portray life as illustrated by golf, claiming that the game presents a true picture of our pilgrimage—"Life's links are short"; "The round is Life, man is the ball, Fate is the club that drives us all"; "Bunkers are cares of life"; "For rubs of Fate there's no redress," are a few of the more choice lines, the poem appropriately ending—

"Still, whether good or evil Fate
Upon our path through life shall wait,
Too quick for us old Time speeds on,
The struggle's o'er—the fight is done—
The race is run—we near the goal—
Wide gapes our grave—the Peaceful
Hole!—

Here fade we from the haunts of men And mingle in the Dust again!"

Neil Fergusson Blair.

A TESTIMONIAL.

A testimony given to the Prince of Wales reporters in September, 1922, by the late Andrew Kirkaldy, professional and greenkeeper of the Royal and Ancient Club—

"When Mr Miller was at the University he was one of the best amateur players in St. Andrews. I have seen him play several of the professionals of that time, getting a third, and he beat them as often as they beat him. He was Captain of the University Club, and an inter-University medallist.

"(Signed) ANDREW KIRKALDY."



PREFACE.

PHERE have been many changes in the implements of golf in the last hundred years. With regard to the balls, there is a great advance from the feather ball with its leather casement to the rubber cored with its gutta-percha envelope. The feather ball had the disadvantage of becoming sodden in wet weather, and once out of shape it was useless for its purpose. It gave way to the gutta ball, which held sway for half a century, but in the end had to yield supremacy to the rubber core in its many diverse varieties, which with its greater elasticity gives a much longer drive. Then, with regard to the clubs, Hugh Philip in the beginning of last century put a finish on the heads that until then was not known, and even now his clubs are in high favour. An offer was recently made of £25 for one of his putters. And the improvement of the head has gone on ever since, till now, when the long-shaped head has given way to the short niblick-like chubby form which is now in vogue. The shaft, too, has changed from lancewood and hickory and ash, or American persimmon. It has now yielded place to steel, which with its toughness and elasticity is found to give a further carry. This has altered the business of wooden club makers, and some of them have had to dispense with the services of some of their employees. Such is the effect of change of fashion.

The two most useful inventions in the last fifty years were the brassy club and the mashie. These are in constant demand, and the latter with its many forms has proved useful in approaching the hole, and in many cases has made a set of clubs look as if they were "mostly metal." In some cases the set consists entirely of steel and brass clubs, for the wooden putter is even a thing of the past, and metal putters have taken their place. The old-time iron cleek remains.

In respect of the putting greens and the course itself, the mower and roller are continually in operation, and the greens are made to look like billiard tables, most of them without any slope or undulation. It was very different fifty years ago, when even the scythe and spade were seldom used on them.

On the North Inch there is a great change, for the cows have been banished, and the course is now kept trim with the mower and roller. The players have been "hurstled yont," and the starting point has been transferred to the three trees, the scene of what was for long the second hole. Thus the lower half of the Inch has been left free for football and hockey in winter and cricket in the summer, or for the "pleasurable recreation" of the lieges, without the danger of getting a smart rap from a golf ball. The extension of the course to the north has permitted of the removal of the golfers to the north end of the Inch.

Whether this alteration of the first teeing ground from the vicinity of the Clubhouse, or the facilities for reaching other links are so numerous, there is not now except on medal days the stir and bustle that used to take place in the box room of the Royal Society a generation or two ago.

I was invited by the Council of the Club to write this History, and have received the kindly help of the Secretary, Mr H. J. Bell, and his assistant, Miss Anderson, in doing so. I have also to acknowledge help from Mrs Everard, St. Andrews, and Mr William Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe, and I owe grateful thanks to ex-Bailie Baxter, the author of "Golf in Perth and Perthshire," who has kindly revised the proof sheets.

I should add that I have been indebted to Mr R. W. R. Mackenzie, Springland, who was appointed by the present Council to advise me as to the publication of this History, for his kind consideration, and to Mr Ross (of Messrs Macgregor & Co., Jewellers) for the help he has given in the reproduction of the medals. He has acted as silversmith to the Royal Golfing Society for over half a century.

T. D. MILLER.

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GOLF

OLF is a science, the study of a lifetime, in which you may exhaust yourself but never your subject. It is a contest, a duel, or a melee, calling for courage, skill, strategy and self-control. It is a test of temper, a trial of honour, a revealer of character. It affords a chance to play the man and act the gentleman. It means going into God's out-of-doors, getting close to nature, fresh air, exercise, a sweeping away of mental cobwebs, genuine recreation of tired tissues. It is a cure for care, an antidote to worry. It includes companionship with friends, social intercourse, opportunities for courtesy, kindliness and generosity to an opponent. It promotes not only physical health but moral force.

D. R. FORGAN.

ROBERT FORGAN & SON, LTD., ST. ANDREWS, SCOTLAND.
The Leading Golf Club Makers for over a Century.

These golf maxims were delivered at a dinner of the Chicago Golf Club, U.S.A., and are by Mr Forgan, banker, the son of the founder of the famous St. Andrews firm. Mr James F. Pullar, a Captain of the Society, was so delighted with them that he distributed copies among his friends.

It was the privilege of the author to receive a copy at his hand.

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GOLF IN PERTH

SPREADING ABROAD THE GAME.

The history of a Golfing Society that has existed for more than a century cannot but give one some impressions of the growth and progress of the game of Golf, not only in one particular locality, but over the whole world. The sons and grandsons of some of the earlier members have gone throughout all the earth carrying their implements with them, and, wherever they have found suitable spaces and kindred spirits, have founded Clubs and helped to spread a knowledge of the game.

Formation of Royal Perth Golfing Society a century ago does not, by any means, signify the introduction of the game in the Fair City, for the game of golf was played on the Inches several centuries before the Perth Club was instituted.

The earliest notice of the game in Scottish historical records is in an enactment of the Parliament of James II. in 1450. The King had resolved upon an immediate invasion of England, and to aid his purpose, which ended so tragically for himself, and, at the same time, strengthen the defence of the Kingdom, it was enacted that the games of Golf and Football should be abolished and that all males between the ages of twelve and fifty should devote their spare time to the practice of Archery. Butts were to be erected at suitable places (as we know was done on the South Inch), and severe penalties were inflicted upon any who failed to frequent them. Those over fifty years of age were permitted to amuse themselves "with such honest games as were best adapted to their time of life, excepting always the golf and football."

THE ORIGIN OF GOLF.

It is a significant fact that the earliest golf courses in Scotland were to be found on the eastern These were at North seaboard. Berwick, Leith, Edinburgh, Andrews, Perth, Montrose and Aberdeen, and if, as has been supposed, the game was introduced from Holland, this was in accordance with the natural order of things. The Dutch were both shipbuilders and traders, and Northern Holland lay on the opposite shore of the North Sea. We know that for several centuries before the introduction of vehicles and the invention of steam, a large foreign trade was carried on by sailing vessels with the town of Perth, which was practically the eastern seaport for a very wide and productive district in the centre of Scotland. It is reasonable to suppose that the Dutch merchants and sailors frequenting the port, would introduce customs, practices and sports with which they were familiar at home.

But the principal argument in favour of the supposition of its Dutch origin lies in the nomenclature of the game.

Dr. James Chaningham, Dundee, was a student, not only distinguished in the classes of the Old College, St. Andrews, but also as an exponent of the game on the Old Links, and he made investigations in Holland regarding the antiquity of golf, the result of which he gathered together in an article to be found in the "History of the Royal and Ancient Club."

THE DUTCH GAME.

He shows, for one thing, that, while there is no game now played in Holland called golf or kolf, there are to be found in the picture galleries some canvases of the early

Dutch masters showing youths and men either with golf clubs in their hands or actually engaged in the game, playing it on a field of ice, some frozen canal, and playing to pins instead of holes. But he points out that there is still a game entitled "het Kolfen," which bears a close resemblance to golf. In the fourcentury this game teenth forbidden by the authorities in Amsterdam, just as it was at a much later date, when the Town Council of Edinburgh prohibited regular golf, the long game, on Bruntsfield Links, on account of the danger to the public. Besides all that, while the Dutch word kolfje (pronounced golfie) means a little club, a copperheaded club is called Klikken.

At the game in Holland the player made a tuitje (pronounced toytee) a little heap, which is evidently the origin of the word "tee." It is possible that stimie is simply "stuit mij"—" It stops me." And it may be that the word put, or hole, finds its derivation also in Some of the proverbs in Dutch that language prove that the game at one time had a strong hold upon the minds of the people, for "Het balletje op tuitje setten" ("To set the ball on the tee," signifying to make a new start) and "Das vie een kolfje naar mijn hand" ("It lies to my hand like a golf club") are good examples.

If so much of golf terminology has come to us from Holland the likelihood is that Perth made its first acquaintance of the game from these Dutch seafaring men who brought over their wooden utensils and implements of husbandry and took away hides, wool and pickled salmon.

Shipping in those long-gone days lay along the Shore from Perth Bridge to the South Street, and up the canal in barges to St. Paul's Church, and the eye of the Dutch navigator would light on the South Inch as a suitable field for indulging in his favourite pastime.

In these old days there was a house at the corner of High Street and Watergate which had a history. Briefly, as follows:—

"THE HOUSE ON THE GREEN."

It was called "The House on the Green." It had belonged to one, John Mercer, a burgess of Perth, who must have owned the Meal Mills of the town. He purchased the lands of Meikleour in 1102, and afterwards took the name of Aldie. The local archæologists tell us that when excavating for the foundation of a mansion for John Mercer, the workmen discovered the ruins of a Roman Temple, so that "The House on the Green" had first of all been a pagan place of worship, then the residence for some centuries of the Mercer or Aldie family, and ultimately, in the eighteenth century, a hostelry, presided over by a popular hostess called Kitty Reid. There was for long a beautifully executed stone panel on the second storey of the building showing the arms of the Mercer family, and at the foot of the panel were carved the significant words, "Here the golfers kept their clubs." The Green must have extended from the back of the house to the back of the Kirkgate, and as far south-west as St. John's Kirk, for in Kitty Reid's time neither George Street nor St. John Street were in existence.

Golfers made Kitty Reid's hostelry their rendezvous, and it therefore was the earliest Club House in the city, where convivial meetings would be held and the players would "fight their battles o'er again," in the golf parlour of the "House on the Green."

FIRST MINUTE.

Particulars of the origin of the Royal Perth Golfing Society are contained in a minute of a meeting dated 5th April, 1824, and the early minutes of the Society are interesting to the present generation.

The first minute is as follows:-"At and Perth within Salutation Inn there, upon Monday, the Fifth Day of April, Eighteen Hundred and Twenty-four years, following the gentlemen vened the purpose considering the propriety instituting a Golfing Society within the City of Perth: -Messrs William

Dick, ex-Rector of the Grammar School; Donald M'Intosh, late Q.M. 42nd Royal Highlanders; Alexander Latta, M.D.; Thomas Robert Sandeman, wine merchant; Laurence accountant; Robertson, David Halket, surgeon; Robert Buist. manufacturer; David Robertson, wine merchant; George Gray, writer; William Stewart, of Summer Bank; James Condie, writer; D. W. Bisset, Bridgend, and John W. Johnston of Knowehead. The meeting proceeded and unanimously made choice of the said William Dick to be Preses, and the said George Gray, Clerk.

"Dr. Latta laid before the meeting the requisition which had been subscribed by those present, as well as a number of other gentlemen, calling the present meeting, but who have sent apologies for their nonattendance, viz.—Messrs Colin Walker, Lieut. 4th King's Own; Cleland, manufacturer; William Archibald Turnbull, seedsman; Colin The meeting C. Marquis, brewer. made choice of the following Gentlemen as a Committee, to prepare a Draft of the Rules and Regulations by which the Society shall be governed, viz.—Dr. Latta, Messrs. William Dick, Thos. Rob. Sandeman, James Condie, David Halket, and George Gray, and they are hereby instructed to call a General Meeting of the Society upon the Thirteenth Day of April, current, at the place and hour foresaid to submit the same for approval, Mr Dick to be Preses and Convener of the Committee.

"The Meeting by a Majority of votes agreed that the Society shall be called the 'Perth Golfing Society,' and that the uniform to be worn by the Members on field days shall be a Scarlet Golfing Jacket with appropriate buttons.

"The Meeting unanimously vote Mr Dick their cordial thanks for his conduct as preses, and to Dr. Latta for the trouble he has had in arranging the present Meeting.

" (Signed) William Dick, preses."

There is a curious touch of exclusiveness in the minute that follows the foregoing, where a

resolution is recorded to the effect that no one should be accounted an original member of the Society unless he were actually present at the first meeting, even though he had signed the requisition, and should only be admitted on passing the ballot.

At a meeting held a few days later, however, a more generous spirit prevailed, and it was resolved that all the signatories should be enrolled as members, without being subjected to the ordeal set forth in Rule I. of Society's Code of Laws.

LIST OF REGULATIONS.

It is a matter of considerable interest to contrast, as an evidence of the growth and progress of the Club, the first modest list of Regulations with the elaborate compendium which has recently been issued to the present members:—

"Rules and Regulations adopted by the Perth Golfing Society as to the admission of Members, Election of Office Bearers, etc.:—

"1st. Any person wishing to become a Member of the Society must be proposed by a Member, and if the proposition be seconded, he shall be balloted for. No person to be admitted unless voted for by three-fourths of the Members present.

"2nd. To facilitate the admission of Members, it is hereby declared that the Secretary shall be obliged to call a Special General Meeting of the Society at any time when requested by three Members, and all General Meetings shall be considered as constituted by the attendance of five Members.

"3rd. All entrants shall pay to the Treasurer for behoof of the Society a Guinea of Entry-Money, and thereafter an annual Subscription of 10/6 upon the last Saturday of April.

"4th. Upon the last Saturday of April the Society shall meet either on the North or South Inch, as may be agreed on, at 12 o'clock noon, to play for the Silver Medal, and at four o'clock they shall assemble within one of the principal Inns of the City, when the Annual General Meeting shall be held for the

appointment of Office Bearers for the ensuing year and other routine business. The Members of the Society shall then dine together, the Captain acting as Chairman, and the Secretary as Croupier; and the Treasurer shall be entitled to pay from the Society's funds the full amount of the Tavern Bill, when the same does not exceed 7/6 for each ordinary Member of the Society, but when it exceeds this sum those who are present and occasion the expense must defray it.

"5th. A handsome Silver Medal shall be provided annually at the Society's expense, and the successful competitor for it shall have his name recorded thereon, and be entitled for the year ensuing to retain possession of and wear the Medal, but thereafter it shall revert to and become the property of the Society, and be hung upon a silver rod to be kept by one of the Office Bearers for

that rurpose.

PLAYERS' UNIFORM—SCARLET JACKET.

"6th. The uniform to be worn by the Members shall be a Scarlet Golfing Jacket with Buttons having the name of the Society impressed thereon, and no person shall be entitled to compete for the Medal unless he appears in uniform.

"7th. The Society may expel such Members as fail to pay their entry money, and annual subscription, or who otherwise contravene the rules of the Society, but in no case shall this be done without the concurrence of three-fourths of Members present.

"8th. The Office Bearers shall consist of a Captain, four Councillors and a Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be chosen at the annual General Meeting in April, by the votes of the Members present, and upon this occasion the Captain of the previous year shall act as preses and have a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote, in case of equality.

"9th. The Society shall be entitled to admit of Honorary Members, but in no case shall any individual obtain this distinction unless voted for unanimously by the whole Mem-

bers present.

"On the 21st of April, 1824, at seven o'clock evening. *Inter alia*. Sir David Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe, Bart., being proposed as a Member by Mr Dick, seconded by Mr Condie, he was balloted for and admitted. . .

"The meeting thereafter proceeded to the election of Office Bearers for the ensuing year:—Sir David Moncreiffe and Mr Condie being each put in nomination for the office of Captain the votes were taken, when the majority having voted for Sir David Moncreiffe he was declared to be duly elected.

"The Meeting are of opinion that the Society's Medal should not be played for this Spring, and do therefore resolve accordingly, without prejudice to the Rules of the Society in respect to the time therein fixed for that purpose being

observed in time hereafter.

THE FIRST ROYAL CLUB DINNER.

"The meeting further agree, without prejudice to the Rules of the Society, that the Members shall meet and dine together within the Salutation Inn, upon Saturday, the 1st May next, at 4 o'clock afternoon, on which occasion the Secretary is instructed to request of Sir David Moncreiffe, as Captain of the Society, to take the Chair."

" At Perth and within the Salutation Inn there upon Saturday, the 1st Day of May, 1824, at four o'clock afternoon, a General Meeting of the Society convened. Inter alia. The whole Members of the Society (with of five) the exception having assembled after the ballot, they sat down to an elegant dinner prepared by Mr Oliphant, in the Salutation Hall, after which the following bets for behoof of the Society's Funds were taken and ordered to be engrossed in the Minutes, viz.—1, Mr Lindsay challenged Mr Turnbull to play 4 rounds of the South Inch on Monday, the 3rd currt. for one guinea which was accepted; 2, Mr Lindsay and Mr Condie challenged Sir David Moncreiffe and Mr Turnbull to play as above on Tuesday, the 11th curt. for one guinea

which was accepted." A number made members other up matches for a similar sum, and then follows the entry:-"The Meeting direct the above bets when decided to be paid into the Secretary of the Society for behoof of the funds thereof, and it was distinctly understood and agreed upon, that such bets as were not decided on the day fixed by the parties should be referred to the Captain and his Council, either to grant the parties a reasonable time to settle their bets, or to declare the same forfeited, as they see cause."

"At Perth, the 12th day of June, 1824, at 1 o'clock afternoon, a General Meeting of the Society was held within the Salutation Inn. Inter alia. The Meeting authorise the Secretary to pay Mr Oliphant's Bill for the Society's Dinner on the 1st ult., amounting to £18 10s 9d, out of the Funds of the Society.

"It was proposed and unanimously agreed that Mr Steel, Tailor, Bridgend, should be employed by the members to make their Golfing Jackets, and that the Jackets shall be made of Scarlet frieze, with dark green collars and plated buttons.

"A motion was made that Mr John Buist, Merchant, should furnish the cloth for the Members' Jackets, and a counter motion that Mr Robert Robertson, as a member of the Society, should be employed, when it was agreed to leave the Members at liberty to employ the one or the other, as they thought proper, but that each of these Gentlemen shall participate equally in the profits of the transaction."

The next minute is of date nine months later, 16th March, 1825, when a General Meeting was held, and Mr Condie was unanimously chosen preses.

"The Preses stated that Sir David Moncreiffe (agreeably to the intimation given by him at the Society's last Annual Dinner) had procured a Silver Club which he meant to present as a Gift to the Society. The Meeting having heard this communication feel gratefully impressed with a sense of the

obligation which the Society is under to Sir David for this proof of his attention, and unanimously agree to invite him and a few of his particular friends to dine with the Members upon any day of the ensuing week which may be most agreeable for him, that he may have an opportunity of presenting the The Meeting hereby ap-Club. point the two Eldest Councillors and Secretary as a deputation to wait upon Sir David, for the purpose of communicating to him the resolution of the Society, and they are further appointed to act as Stewards in making the preliminary arrangements for the Dinner. The meeting agreed that Mr Davidson of the George Inn shall provide the Dinner, and that the first and second Councillors shall act as Chairman and Croupier on the occasion.

"The Meeting thereafter proceeded to ballot for new members when Patrick Gilbert Stewart, Esquire, and Alexander Mackenzie, Esq., Writer, were unanimously admitted as Ordinary Members, and Mr Chas. Robertson, Preacher of the Gospel, an Honorary Member."

THE FIRST COMPETITION.

At a meeting of the Council held on the 15th day of April, 1825, the subject of the Club's Medal came up for consideration and the Minute runs as follows:--"The Meeting having considered the 5th Rule of the Society, which provides for a handsome Silver Medal annually furnished at the Society's expense, and played for on the last Saturday of April, are of opinion that the Rule should be modified, and accordingly resolve that instead of a Silver Medal, a Gold one shall be procured, that the City Arms and Name of the Society shall be engraved on one side, and the names of the successful competitors for the medal upon the other, and that the person who gains the Medal shall have the privilege of wearing it for Sir David the ensuing season. Moncreiffe is requested by the Meeting to give the necessary orders for the Gold Medal being prepared, and the Secretary to pay for it."

THE SOUTH INCH COURSE.

The first competition for the Gold Medal was held on the 27th April, The Minute reads as follows:--" Those Members who wished to compete for the Medal, having given in their names upon a slip of paper to the Secretary, they were matched in parties of two, dropt in the Ballot Box, and obtained precedence in striking off according as their names were afterwards drawn The competition having immediately afterwards taken place upon the South Inch by fourteen members, the Medal after a keen contest, was carried off by the Captain, Sir David Moncreiffe, who made the sixteen holes in 101 strokes—the members who played second best were Mr Robert Robertson and Dr. Halket, each of whom made the holes in 104 strokes.

THE SILVER CLUB.

"The Sports of the day being concluded, the Members accompanied by a few stranger friends, sat down to a sumptuous Dinner in the George Inn, the Captain officiating as Chairman, and the two eldest Councillors as Croupiers. In the course of the evening the Chairman, after an appropriate address, presented the Society with a massive Silver Golf Club and Ball, embossed with the City Arms and name of the Society. After the most astounding bursts of applause for this munificent donation had ceased, Mr Condie, as eldest Councillor, in a very neat and comprehensive speech, returned thanks to Sir David, in name of the Society for his liberal gift, and for the warm interest he evinced in the welfare and success of the Association, and politely complimenting him at same time on the kindly social and benevolent virtues for which, as a neighbour, a landlord and a County gentleman, he had ever been so peculiarly distinguished. The Perthshire Band were in attendance and the conviviality and good humour of the Meeting were kept up with unabated spirit till a late hour."

The Society was now firmly established, showing a Roll of no

less than thirty-seven Members. The Account, Charge and Discharge from 30th April, 1824, to 30th April, 1825, was presented by Mr George Gray, Treasurer, as follows:—

1824. April 30 Paid aid for Sederunt Book and Cash Book 5 3 Paid Advertising in Perth Courier 5 6 Express Moncreiffe House ... Paid for Card Paper Paid James Oliphant his Bill for Socie y's May 3 Dinner 12 Paid Waiter Salutation for his Attendance at at Meeting General ... 1 0 this day Paid R. Morison for printing circum .. £3 1 3 £22 14 0

DR. ANDERSON'S SPEECH AT THE GOLF CLUB DINNER.

Dr. Adam Anderson, the Rector of Perth Academy at that time, who in 1837 became Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of St. Andrews, was one of the early members of the Golfing Society, and like Professor Tait, the father of the famous "Freddie," took a great interest in the game, and applied his learning to elucidate its principles. Dr. Anderson was the man to whom Perth is indebted for the introduction of its healthful and pure supply of water from the Silvery Tay, a supply that has lasted the city for a hundred years, having been inaugurated in 1832. He took a prominent part in the earlier proceedings of the Society and delighted the members with his erudition and humour. On the occasion when the Society entertained Sir Moncreiffe, he was invited to propose the toast of "The Game of Golf and the Various Trades connected with it." The Society was so delighted with his illuminative address, that then and there "it was moved by the Secretary that same should be entered into the records of the Society, which motion being seconded by Sir David, Dr. Anderson politely acceded to the request of the meeting:-"

He said—"Before giving the Toast which I have obtained per-

mission to propose, I beg leave briefly to direct the attention of the Society to a few points relating to the implements of our craft. In doing so, it is not my intention, Mr Chairman, to detain you with a formal preface to a subject which is too interesting to every golfer to be brought before you, either with argument or apology, but, profiting by Horace's advice, to rush at once in mediam rem and drive straight for the holes!

"First of all then, we have the club, which naturally divides itself into two heads, or at least into one head and a handle. The handle as we all know is generally fabricated of wood, unless in some rare and extraordinary case (such as when a generous and public spirited patron happens, fortunately for a Society, to preside over its interests) when it It is of wood, is made of silver. however, as has been already remarked, that the handle is formed, but even this less costly material implies the existence of husbandry, and the culture of forest trees. is it a shapeless crooked piece of timber. which, as in our ambitious days, we found sufficient for all the purposes of a club, that will suit the more fastidious taste of the golfer. Before the rude piece of ligneous matter can be put into his hands, it must be stripped of its natural integuments, and fashioned by the skill of a cunning workman. into a fine limber, elastic, tapering well-polished rod. nicely wrapped round at the upper extremity with a covering of cloth or leather. These operations require the concurring aid of the carpenter and the cloth manufac-So much for the handle, with respect to which there is room to doubt whether it has been made a handle for an Essay, or an Essay for a handle.

"The head, as happens in other cases, is the most complex and curious part of the production. The very materials which enter into its composition are borrowed from the three kingdoms of Nature. The vegetable kingdom supplies the block of wood which constitutes the

basis of the whole; the mineral kingdom furnishes the metal with which it is poised to give additional efficacy to the momentum communicated to the ball; and lastly the animal kingdom yields the horn by which it is guarded from the effects of its own yielence.

"It thus appears that the head of the club demands for its structure not only the raising of timber, but the rearing of cattle, and the operations of mining as well as the manipulations of metallurgy.

"Nor is this all. The head and the handle are as useless in a disjoined state as they compose when united a noble and powerful instrument; but before they can be firmly and permanently attached to each other, we must call in the assistance of the rope-spinner, and of course, that of the flaxdresser and the husbandman.

"The painter follows with his brush and pallet, and gives the finish to an instrument which Cicero did not disdain to recommend to his countrymen as the means of procuring a manly and healthful exercise,

"If from the club we turn our attention to the ball, we have before us a body which mathematicians justly regard as that of the most beautiful and perfect of all solids. But who can describe how much skill and labour were required to communicate to it all the seemingly inconsistent qualities which recommend the ball to the eyes of the experienced golfer?

"To be hard yet elastic—to be composed of feathers, and yet endued with a specific gravity which approaches to that of mineral substances, exhibits an art over physical difficulties which ingenuity and perseverance only could surmount. Yet such is a golf ball!

"History has not recorded in her instructive page, the name of the individual who first suggested the happy idea of filling the interior of the ball with the downy covering of the feathered tribes; nor is it even known whether the practice was introduced with the view of giving buoyancy to it in its flight, or a

portion of that acceleration which feathers possess when they are attached to the wings of birds. a case where the great Bechman is silent conjecture would be as daring as research has been unprofitable, so that with respect to this interesting point, it is greatly to be feared curiosity must remain ungratified. Happily, however, the intrinsic value of the ball is not affected by the obscurity of its history, and little as we know of its origin, we know enough of its real character to be convinced that without it the club would be as useless as the gold stick of the Lord High Chancellor to quell a city riot.

"Lastly, if many branches of human industry must co-operate to the formation of the implements of golfing, a combination not less extensive of scientific knowledge and practical skill is necessary to enable the golfer to wield them with proper effect.

"The laws of mechanical impulse, and of the collision of elastic as well as inelastic bodies—the doctrines of projectiles—are only some of the branches of physical science which must be familiar to the accomplished golfer before he can either launch a ball from its tee, or direct its course in the true parabolic path which ought to be assigned to it.

"From the few hints that have been thrown out, it must be perceived that golfing is not only venerable by its antiquity, having the sanction of one of the greatest orators of ancient times, but that it fosters the cultivation of many useful handicrafts and branches of science which, though they might perhaps exist without its aid, are, nevertheless, to a certain extent, benefited by its encouragement. beg therefore to give the ancient and manly exercise of Golfing, and the various trades which administer to it."

"8th November, 1825—At a general meeting of the Society on this date, the meeting being unanimously of opinion that it would be desirable to have an officer or

officers attached to the Society for warning meetings and attending the Society on all necessary occasions, Mr George Gardiner moved that John Jackson, son of James Jackson, wright, in Perth, should be appointed to that situation, which motion was seconded by Mr Dick. Sir John Mac-Kenzie moved that the four Town Officers should be appointed as officers of this Society, which motion was seconded by Mr Thomas Robert Sandeman, and both motions being put to the vote, John Jackson having a majority of votes, was declared to be duly elected. The meeting instruct the Secretary to provide him with a suitable uniform at the expense of the Society and pay him annually a salary of 10/6."

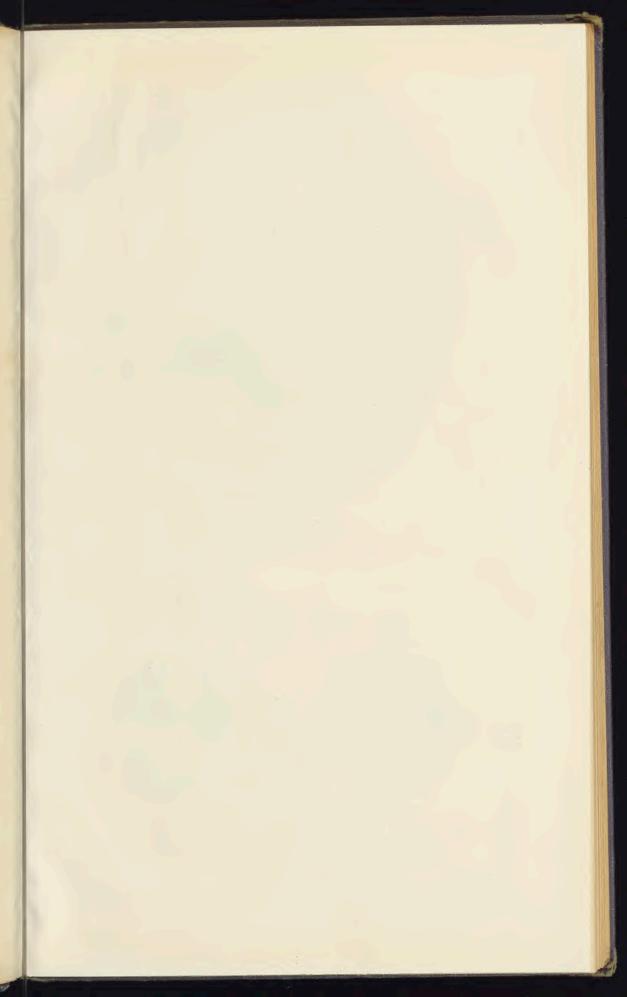
THIRTY-FOUR YEARS SECRETARY.

Change of date of meeting for the election of office-bearers and competition for Gold Medal:—

"At the Annual General Meeting held in the George Inn, on 27th of April, 1829, a recommendation of the Council that the date of the election of office-bearers and the Gold Medal competition should be changed to the last Wednesday in September was unanimously agreed to, the reason given for so doing being that many of the county gentlemen who felt inclined to take an interest in the Society were from home in April; and besides that there were several other golfing competitions taking place in Fife at the same date, which interfered with the competition in Perth.

"It was also agreed upon that the Spring Meeting would take place on the last Wednesday of April, to compete for the Silver Medal, but with special reference to that year a competition for the Silver Medal would take place in September, when the Gold Medal was to be played for, the first successful competitor taking the Gold Medal, which he would retain until the following September, while the second competitor would hold the Pitfour Silver Medal till April."

The two outstanding names among the founders of the Club are those





THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH.







Mr George Gray, who was secretary and treasurer of the Royal Perth Golfing Society for 34 years.

of James Condie and George Gray. The former proved himself a golfer of world-wide reputation, so far as the knowledge of the game had then extended, and the latter by his assiduous attention to the business interests of the club earned for himself, after a term of 34 years as its secretary and treasurer, the gratitude of the club, which took material form in the shape of a piece of plate. He chose a handsome gold snuff-box, which is now in the possession of Mr Melville Gray of Bowerswell, Perth.

The play at the formation of the Club and for ten years after was over the South Inch. There were but four holes. We can picture them as placed near the corners on the Inch* to the West of the Edinburgh Road. The clubs were kept in a room at the north end of Princes Street, belonging to James Jackson, father of the famous Perth golf club maker, who was the first greenkeeper of the Society, and so modest was the expenditure upon the room and its accessories, that the players seem to have been surprised when they were invited to defray the washing bill for the towels they made use of.

The entry money was fixed at a guinea, and the annual subscription one half less. The accounts for the year 1824-25 are interesting both from what they show of the outlay and from what they omit. dinner, a very important function in these early years, was defrayed by the Club, and for the score of members who sat down under the chairmanship of Sir David Moncreiffe, Bart. of Moncreiffe, the charge against the club was £18 10s 9d. For the upkeep of the green, afterwards so heavy an item in general, and so extravagantly large on some modern links, was nil. This state of things continued, more or less, to the middle of the century. The great and good Tom Morris told the writer that when Allan Robertson and he did their record round over the Old Links at St. Andrews, there had not been, up to that time, somewhere about 1860, a scythe, roller, spade, or even broom used on the greens. The Perth players carried on their play over the South Inch an naturel, the only stipulation being that four fresh holes should be cut on the morning of the Medal Competition, and the cow-droppings removed from the putting greens.

THE FIRST HONORARY MEMBER.

In 1825 the first hon, member was elected, in the person of Mr Chas. Robertson, Preacher of the Gospel. He came afterwards to be known as "Goufin' Charlie." He was a man of considerable talent, endowed with a vein of humour. He failed to get a church in the south, and declined a call he received from far north, on the ground that it would mean honourable banishment for him. There seems to have been something of the wisdom of the serpent in his election as an hon, member, for he was a first-class player, trained on the Old Links at St. Andrews. hon, member was not allowed to

*King James VI. of Scotland is said to have played golf over the Inches of Perth ere going to London to succeed Queen Elizabeth on the English throne, and later, played golf over Blackheath.

enter any of the Club competitions, and for fifteen years he was thus debarred, until in 1840 he was admitted without ballot, as an ordinary member, and he immediately distinguished himself by winning the Stewart Richardson Silver Medal, and, in several of the following years, he gave in the top card.

He died in 1864 and was one of the first to be laid in the cemetery at Scone, where he had spent the latter years of life, after retiring from the farm of Buttergask.

THE PITFOUR MEDAL.

On 5th April, 1826, at a general meeting of the Club it was agreed to have two annual general meetings of the Society, the first upon the last Saturday of April, as fixed by the rules of the Society, and the second upon the last Saturday of September, "on which last occasion the members shall play for prize balls in the same manner as is done for The first prize to conthe medal. sist of 1½ dozen golf balls, the second, 1 dozen balls, and the third, Those members who choose may dine together after the play, but no part of the expense shall be allowed from the Society's funds. The person who gains the medal at the Spring Meeting shall not be allowed to compete with the other members at the Autumn Meeting."

The competition for these prizes was held on the 30th September, when Messrs Robert Matthew and James Condie tied for first place with scores of 99 for the sixteen holes. On playing off the tie, Mr Matthew gained the first prize, Mr Condie the second prize, and Mr Robert Robertson stood third, winning six balls.

UNDIGNIFIED PROCEEDINGS.

The following year it seems to have been felt that for the members to compete for prizes of balls was an undignified proceeding, introducing as it did, a mercenary spirit into the game, and accordingly at a special meeting of the Society the resolution to provide these prizes was rescinded, and the chairman, John Richardson, Esq., moved, with the view to keep alive an interest in

the game, that a Silver Medal be substituted, in place of the prize balls, to be played for in the same way as is done for the Gold Medal at the Spring Meeting, it being understood that the holder of the gold medal, shall not be entitled to compete. This motion being carried unanimously, Mr Richardson said he would be happy to present the Society with a Silver Medal, upon which Mr Robert Buist moved that the cordial thanks of the meeting be given the Captain for this mark of attention, which was carried by acclamation.



Sir David Moncreiffe, Bart. of Moncreiffe, first captain of the Perth Royal Golfing Society.

SIR DAVID MONCREIFFE.

One of the few mournful events recorded in the early minutes of the Royal Perth Golfing Society is the death of Sir David Moncreiffe at the age of 49. The intimation of the mournful event came with startling suddenness, for it appears upon the same page as Sir David's re-election by the unanimous vote of the members as Captain of the Society, and only five months later than he had gained the Pitfour Medal.

On 27th day of November, 1830, the minute runs:—"The Council having met in consequence of the lamented death of Sir David Moncreiffe, resolve and instruct the secretary to call a General Meeting of the Society within the George Inn, upon Saturday next, the 4th proxo, at 12 o'clock, in order that the members may have an opportunity of passing such resolutions as may be thought proper to testify the high respect entertained by them towards their late Captain, and their deep sorrow for his loss."

At the General Meeting which followed, it was moved by Dr. Adam Anderson, Rector of the Academy, seconded by Mr Moray of Abercairny, and unanimously approved of "That the Golfing Society of Perth deeply impressed with a sense of the important services of their Captain, the late Sir David Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe, Bart., both as the Founder of the Institution, and on all occasions its zealous and generous supporter—Resolve in testimony of their esteem and respect for his memory, to insert in their minutes the unanimous expression of their condolence for an event which has deprived the Society of its Founder and the community at large of an active and highly useful Country Gentleman, and that while they sincerely sympathise with the family and relatives for the irreparable loss they have sustained, they feel it to be a melanchody duty to place upon their records a grateful memorial of one of their members, who endeared himself to all around him, not less by the liberality of his public conduct, than by his private benevolence and unaffected urbanity of disposition."

It was also moved by Mr Turnbull, seconded by Mr Threipland, younger of Fingask, and unanimously approved of, "That a respectful request should be made in name of the Society to Lady Moncreiffe for permission to obtain a copy of a likeness of Sir David from a painting in Moncreiffe House, in order that the Society may have in their possession a portrait of the distinguished individual to whom it owes its

origin, and in a great measure its prosperity and success."

At the General Meeting held in September, 1831, "The Council presented to the Society an Original Portrait of the late Sir David Moncreiffe, Bart., taken by Heaphy, a Member of the Royal Academy, and purchased from him by Thomas Patton on the Society's account."

THE TITLE "ROYAL."

At a meeting of the Council on the ninth day of August, 1833, the Right Honourable Lord Kinnaird, Captain of the Club, presiding, the chairman intimated to the meeting that he had been recently in London, when he took the opportunity of addressing a letter to His Majesty King William the Fourth, solicit-His Majesty ing become to the Patron of the Society, and to grant his permission for styling it in future, the "Royal Perth Golfing Society," and wearing an appropriate button, a drawing of which he had submitted to the King; to which application His Majesty was graciously pleased to accede, in a letter transmitted to his Lordship by Sir Herbert Taylor, the tenor of which follows:-

"Windsor Castle, "June 4, 1833.

"My dear Lord,

"I have had the honor to submit to the King your Lordship's letter and the enclosed drawing of the button of the Perth Golfing Society, and I am directed to acquaint you that His Majesty approves the button, and to repeat to your Lordship what He had already stated to you verbally, that His Majesty has great pleasure in meeting the wish of the Society that it should be styled Royal and placed under his patronage.

"I have the honor to be my Dear Lord,

"Your Lordship's obedient humble servant,

"H. Taylor."

"The Right Honble.
"Lord Kinnaird."

etc., etc.

The meeting having received this gratifying communication from his

Lordship, it was moved by Pat G. Stewart, Esq., and carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the Society were due to Lord Kinnaird for the very great interest he had uniformly taken in the Society's affairs, since he became connected with it, and particularly for this distinguished mark of his Lordship's attention, in having procured the Royal patronage for this Society, an honor of which no other Golfing Society in Britain can boast.

Thereafter his Lordship presented to the Society a quantity of buttons with the device approved of by His Majesty, for the use of the members, when it was agreed that these should be worn upon a blue dress coat at all convivial meetings of the Society.

The meeting instructed the Secretary to get Sir Herbert Taylor's letter neatly framed, and placed beside the other insignia of the Society, and he is also instructed to intimate this day's proceedings to the members.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH.

At an ordinary meeting of the Perth Royal Golfing Society on 6th September, 1834, presided over by Dr. Adam Anderson, it was intimated that His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch was at that date a guest at Faskally, and, on the motion of Mr Condie, it was unanimously resolved to invite him to the dinner to be held on the 17th inst. It was also proposed to invite the officers of the 71st Regiment.

The Secretary stated to the meeting that it would be impossible to obtain accommodation in the George Inn for the dinner on the 17th inst. as the Circuit Court would be sitting at that time, and the Lords of Justice would occupy the Inn. The meeting accordingly resolved to apply to the Convener of the committee having charge of the County Buildings, for the use of the County Hall, and directed the Secretary to write Mr Smythe of Methven on this subject.

The dinner was evidently a great success. The gay uniforms of the members along with those of the officers of the Garrison made it quite a brilliant gathering, and the speeches of men such as Mr Condie, Major Belshes and Dr. Adam Anderson gave the necessary intellectual eclat and impressiveness to the occasion, while the general high spirits and good humour of the members were kept alive and heightened by the music of Mr Waddel's Band. So that the banquet proved "a feast of reason and a flow of soul."

The only record of the evening's proceedings, except what is found in the annual statement of accounts, is

the following entry:-

"In the course of the evening's proceedings, after Mr Richardson of Pitfour had taken the chair, Major Belshes proposed that His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, who was present, should be admitted a member of the Society, which was carried by acclamation."

ELECTION OF CAPTAIN.

At the General Meeting in April, 1837, on the motion of Colonel Belshes of Invermay, the Duke was unanimously elected Captain of the Society in succession to the Rt. Hon. Viscount Stormont, and at a meeting of Council held a month or two later, it was intimated that His Grace had given his assent to the autumn meeting being held on the 13th day of September, and the secretary was instructed to make the arrangements for a dinner to be held on that evening in the George The dinner was of the usual enjoyable nature enlivened with music and songs by Messrs Robson, Peacock and Conacher, whose names appear in the discharge column of the annual statement of accounts; but an important reference to one part of the proceedings is found in the minute of Council of a meeting held in December following.

It is to this effect—"Lt. Colonel Murray Belshes, in reference to the statement the Duke of Buccleuch was good enough to make at the last anniversary dinner, relative to presenting the Society with a Gold Medal, laid before the Society the following resolutions for their consideration:—

"That in order to testify to His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, the

deep sense of gratitude with which the Society is impressed by the very kind and handsome manner in which His Grace notified his intention at the last anniversary dinner to present the Society with a Gold Medal—it is the unanimous opinion of the Council (provided it meets with His Grace's approbation) that that Medal should be considered, as an additional prize, to be styled 'The Buccleuch Medal,' and to be played for annually on the day preceding the anniversary meeting in Autumn, under the same Regulations as the Society's Gold Medal is now played for, with this exceptionthat no names are to be engraved on it."

LETTER FROM DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH.

The Council having considered and unanimously approved of these resolutions, requested Col. M. Belshes to submit them for His Grace's approval; and, at the next meeting, the following letter from His Grace was read and a copy ordered to be engrossed in the minutes:—

"Dalkeith, 20th Jan., 1838. "Lt. Col J. Murray Belshes,

"My Dear Sir,

"I trust you will excuse my delay in answering your letter of the 11th. I shall be most happy to give my most entire approbation to the arrangement proposed by you and unanimously approved of by the Council respecting the Gold Medal, which it is my intention to give to the Royal Perth Golfing Society, and must express my best thanks to you for the interest you have taken in this matter, and to the Council for the honor they have done me in making this arrangement. Believe me,

"My Dear Sir,
"Yours most sincerely,"
(Signed) BUCCLEUCH.

TWO GOLD MEDALS.

The Society was now in possession of two Gold Medals, and it was arranged that these should be competed for on consecutive days at the Autumn Meeting, and, in order to

prevent the possibility of any player carrying off both the trophies, it was enacted that "the successful competitor for the Buccleuch Medal shall not be entitled to compete for the Society's Gold Medal, and that in future, no person shall be entitled to hold more than one medal, that is to say, in the event of the holder of the Pitfour Medal winning either of the Gold Medals, he shall be obliged to resign the Pitfour Medal, which, in that event, shall be open for competition on the Thursday following the General Meeting, and if the holder of the Society's Gold Medal wins the Buccleuch Medal, he also must resign it to be played for on the Thursday following the Annual Meeting. with reference to these recommendations, the Council would further suggest, that the General Meetings of the Society should in future be held annually on a Tuesday in September, when the Buccleuch Medal should be played for, and an Ordinary Meeting held, and the Gold Medal competed for on the Wednesday following, when the Anniversary Dinner should take place, and both then presented medals winners."

A DIARY.

A graphic account of the dinner of the Perth Royal Golfing Society at which His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch presided as Captain, has been preserved in the diary of a young barrister who was a guest on the occasion.

He had come on a visit, along with his relatives, Sir Alexander and Lady Dickson, to Mr Archibald Turnbull of Bellwood, in the autumn of 1837.

He not only gives a brief and lucid description of the game as he, for the first time, saw it played by the members of the Royal Society on the North Inch, but also a very realistic account of what was one of the most important social functions the Royal Club ever held.

This is how the proceedings of the morning and evening struck "a stranger":—

"We arrived from Dundee at six o'clock in the morning on a visit to

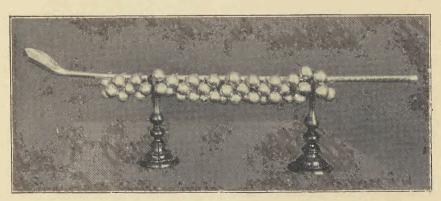
Mr Archie Turnbull, of Bellwood House, Perth, a fine specimen of a bachelor's mansion. At breakfast we were joined by Major Guthrie and Mr Moncrieff, W.S., and at noon, we descended to the North Inch to see the game of golf played by members of the Royal Perth Golfing Society, for a gold medal. As to the Society, the late King (William IV.), extended his patronage to them and made them a Royal Society. The holes are situated round the Inch, and to play the whole game takes about an hour and a half; the holes are about 300 or 400 yards apart and in every variety of direction.

"A boy is stationed at each hole to mark its exact situation, to guide the striker. When the ball is struck with force to impel it forward as far as possible, it is called 'driving,' and when it has been driven near the hole, so that only a small force and skilful management are required to send it into the hole, it is called 'putting.' There were about a dozen competitors for the medal, all dressed in their uniform coat, scarlet with black collar and an appropriate club button. They played in pairs, each pair waiting till the other had advanced a hole's length, and a person accompanied each pair to mark the number of strokes taken between each hole.

"The hole from whence the start is made is the last one, at which stood the president of the club, Colonel Belshes of Invermay, a stately, pompous, but very gentlemanly man, who received the lists from the markers as they finished; and when all had arrived successively at the last hole, comparing the lists, he declared Captain Hope Grant (afterwards Sir Hope Grant), 9th Lancers, aide-de-camp to Lord Greenock, the successful man.

"Mr Turnbull took me to the annual dinner given by the Society in the County Hall, the Duke of Buccleuch, captain of the Society, in the chair, supported by Sir John Richardson of Pitfour on the right, and Sir Patrick Murray Thriepland on the left, Colonel Belshes, the president of the club, officiating as croupier to the Duke. About 120 sat down to dinner, three tables lengthways and one across, in the centre of which sat His Grace of Buccleuch. After dinner the usual loyal toasts, and different golfing clubs were drunk: Edinburgh is the oldest, St. Andrews second, and Perth third. The Duke's health was then proposed by Colonel Belshes and drunk with great applause.

"The Duke stated in his speech his intention of giving the Society a gold medal to be played for annually in addition to the club one, and of applying to the proper quarter to get the Queen to extend her patronage to the Society. It is composed of captain, president, and council. The Duke then called upon the victor of the day, Captain Grant, to receive the reward of his merits, and put the gold medal, attached to a ribbon, round his neck amidst



It was the custom of the members of the Perth Royal Golfing Society, on their election, to kiss the silver balls on the Silver Club of the Society.

great applause. The newly-elected members, amongst whom was Major Wemyss, better known by the sobriquet of "Flash Jim," were called upon to do homage and fealty to their superior, His Grace, the captain. This ceremony consists in kissing, separately, two rows of silver balls which are attached to the handle part of a massive silver golf This club is held by the captain while the kissing ceremony It is hollow, and it was lasts. originally the custom for each newly-elected member to empty it after it had been filled with wine, but this custom is now 'more honoured in the breach than in the observance.'

"After divers other toasts had been given, and glees sung by the professional vocalists, and Scotch tunes played by the fiddlers, who operated in the orchestra, the Duke proposed the health of the strangers, of whom there were but four or five present. My horror was great when nobody rose to return thanks, and, finding divers pairs of eyes directed to me, in mute expectation of the outpouring of a stream of eloquence, I made an effort, and sprang up on my legs, screwing my courage to the sticking point, and, after thanking my Lord Duke and gentlemen for the honour, etc., and, eulogising the 'noble game of golf' (which, by the bye, I think is a very stupid game), I resumed my seat, and began to wonder whether or not I had made a fool of myself."

QUEEN VICTORIA PATRONESS.

At the stated Annual General Meeting held in the Salutation Hotel on 12th September, 1838, the following letter from His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch to Lt.-Col Belshes was read:—

"London, 7th June, 1838.
"My Dear Sir,—I have this morning had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 3rd, and am happy to inform you that I have had the honor of an audience of the Queen, when Her Majesty was most graciously pleased to consent to become Patroness of the Royal Perth Golfing Society. May I request

that you will communicate this to the Society. Believe me, My Dear Sir, Yours Very Sincerely (Signed) BUCCLEUCH."

Whereupon Mr Smythe of Methven moved a vote of thanks to His Grace for the trouble he had kindly taken in procuring the Royal Patronage to the Society, which was duly seconded by Mr Hunter, and carried with acclamation.

BUTTONS.

Now that a Golfing Uniform has, for the time at least, gone out of fashion, and each of the members has become with regard to his attire a law unto himself, so that there is diversity instead of similarity on the links, it may well seem strange that the style and design of a coat button should have been considered a subject worthy of serious disputation.

While at the founding of the Club, members were instructed to wear a red jacket with buttons having the name of the Society impressed upon





The old (left) and new coat buttons of the Royal Perth Golfing Society.

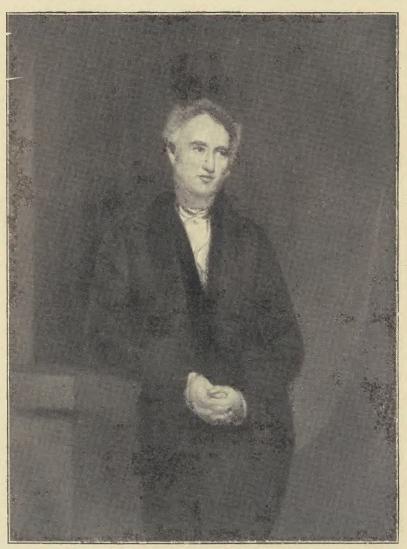
them, so when His Majesty King William IV. graciously consented in 1833 to become the Patron of the Society, it was felt that it would be fitting and becoming that the clubbutton should display a symbol of mark of Royal favour. Accordingly a design of crossed clubs with a Crown placed between the handles and a teed golf-ball between two large Scottish Thistles and the heads, was laid before the King by Lord Kinnaird, and received His Majesty's approval.

Many dozens of buttons were required to supply the members, and these were formed from a single mould; but, in course of time, the mould began to show signs of wear and the outline on the buttons to grow indistinct. It became necessary to procure a new mould, and the feeling grew that some other design

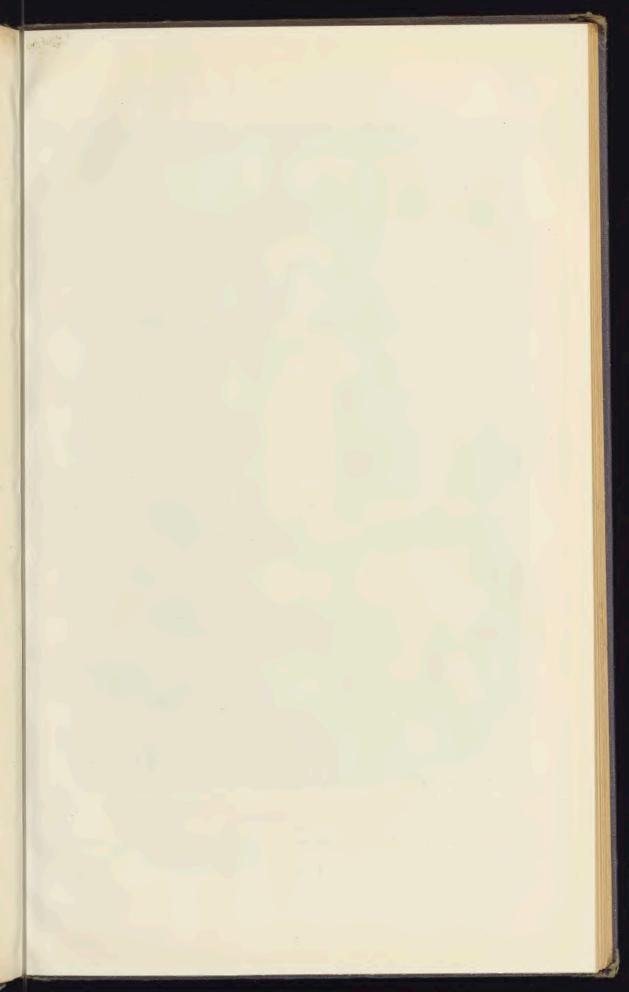
should supersede what had been thought fit and appropriate at an earlier date. We can imagine that such a suggestion would not meet with the approval of those who were attached to the button and who recognised the full significance of its Royal design. A dispute arose and for a time unfortunately destroyed the concord and unity of the club.

The first we learn of the proposal to alter the design is in a minute of the General Meeting held in April, 1841, where it is recorded that the

Secretary stated that as the present supply of the Society's buttons was nearly exhausted, several members of the Society had suggested that a button after a more modern pattern should be obtained. But before doing anything in the matter, as a point of courtesy, Lord Kinnaird. through whom the Royal button had been obtained, had been consulted as to the contemplated alteration. Sir John Richardson, who had corresponded with his Lordship on the subject, stated the substance



Dr. Adam Anderson, a former Rector of Perth Academy, who in 1837 became Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of St. Andrews, was one of the original members of the Perth Royal Golfing Society. To him Perth is indebted for its water supply.





LADY HELEN MONCREIFFE,

Photo by Mr. A. Munro.

Wife of Sir David Moncreiffe, Bart., of Moncreiffe, and daughter of Captain Æneas Mackay of Scotstoun, Peeblesshire. Lady Helen Moncreiffe married (secondly), in 1849, the second Earl of Bradford. The original picture by Heaphy, London, is in the possession of Dr. Charles Lunan, Blairgowrie.

of his reply, as containing sentiments unfavourable to any change, but leaving it to the Society to judge of the expediency of obtaining another pattern. The Secretary likewise stated that the die of the old pattern was almost worn out, the last button produced from it being very indistinct, and that the expense of a new one would be the same as required for an improved pattern.

A NEW BUTTON?

Whereupon Dr. Macfarlane moved that there did not appear to be any call for a change of the Royal button, and that the same be continued. Mr Archibald Turnbull then moved as an amendment that there should be a new button, and a remit be made to the Council to decide on the pattern thereof, and procure the necessary supply. The motion and amendment being put to the vote, the latter was carried by a considerable majority.

This result was evidently a matter of keen disappointment to some of those who favoured the King William button, and their feeling was evinced at the following meeting of the Council, when a letter was read from Lieut.-Colonel Belshes requesting that his name should be struck out of the list of Councillors of the Society. The significance of his drastic action will be better understood when we recall that it was owing to his kind offices and insistent effort that the Royal and Ancient Club of St. Andrews obtained from King William in 1834 the same mark of the Royal favour that His Majesty had bestowed upon Perth Golfing Society the previous year and, at a later date, secured for that club the King William and Queen Adelaide Medals. It is not to be wondered at that one who was instrumental in obtaining for a sister Club so many highly-prized gifts, should decline to take part in discarding a button, the impress on which had met with King William's approval.

The Council unanimously agreed that Col. Belshes' request be complied with. Some months later they made choice from a variety of patterns exhibited, of a uniform button of new design for the Society, and instructed the secretary to order fifty dozen for the coat and a corresponding number for the vest. So that it would appear that the innovators had carried the day, and that the King William button was relegated to the limbo of antiquarian curiosities.

At the Autumn Meeting of the Society the matter again came up for discussion on a motion by the Honourable Fox Maule, that a remit be made to the Council to suspend further procedure, until the sentiments of another General Meeting of the Society could be obtained on the subject, and this motion was carried "by a large majority" against the amendment of Mr David Clark, that the Minutes of the Council be approved.

Accordingly in April, 1842, the largest meeting that had been held in the history of the Society, consisting of no less than fifty members, assembled to bring this prolonged dispute to a close. It was presided over by John Grant, Esq. of Kilgraston, Captain. At the request of the meeting, the Secretary (Mr George Gray) read the various minutes and documents bearing on Dr. James Macfarlane the subject. moved that the old button be continued as the uniform button of the Society, which was seconded by Sir Thomas Moncreiffe, Bart.

Sir John Muir Mackenzie, Bart., moved as an amendment that the Council be instructed to proceed with the remit made to them by the General Meeting, 21st April last, and to submit their selection of a new button through some influential individual for the approval of Her Majesty, the present Patroness of motion and The Society. the amendment were then put to the vote, when there voted for the former 23, and for the latter 26, and the amendment was accordingly declared to be carried by a majority of three votes.

A Question of Buttons.

A SOCIETY RULE.

Up to this point the prolonged dispute over the buttons had been carried on as if the sole question was to determine which of the two parties had the majority of members, and no one seems to have noticed that another important issue was at stake. But at length one of the acuter minds pointed out that to substitute a Victorian pattern of button for that of King William, involved a change in one of the Rules of the Society and that, according to Rule XIV., no alteration could take place on the Society's rules unless it were supported by two-thirds of the members present at the meeting. So that within three months of the Club's decision, a protest was forwarded to the Secretary, signed by a score of members, and it was laid before the General Meeting of the Society in September, 1842.

It was in the following terms:—
"We, the undersigned members of
the Royal Perth Golfing Society,
Protest against the Resolution of the
Majority of the Society at a meeting
held on the 20th of April last, to
alter the present uniform Button for
the following reasons:—

"1st. Because it is provided by Rule XI. of the Society's Regulations that the Dress Uniform for the Dinner shall consist of a dark blue coat with dark blue velvet collar and buff waistcoat, both bearing the Uniform Button.

"2nd. Because it is declared by a minute or minutes of previous General Meetings of the Society, that the Button given by the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird, and approved of by his late Majesty King William the Fourth, when he was graciously pleased to confer the high and distinguished honour of Royal Patronage on the Society, and to allow it to assume for the first time the title of the Royal Perth Golfing Society, shall be the uniform Button of the Society, the undersigned consider it therefore incompetent to make any change at present, till Rule XIV. of the Society's Rules be complied with, which requires twothirds of those present at a General Meeting to concur (after three months' previous notice to the Secretary in writing of an intention to change a Rule) before any change can take place, no such notice having been given in the present instance.

"3rd. Because the Majority of the Society having carried the amendment for a change of the Button, only by twenty-six to twenty-three, whereas the said Rule (14th) requires two-thirds of those present and, as no written notice was given as required by said Rule, it is irregular and incompetent to carry the Resolution of the Society into effect.

"4th. Because the undersigned consider that the amendment for a change, disguise it as the Majority may, exhibits a decided want of gratitude to the late Sovereign who was graciously pleased not only to confer originally the Royal Patronage on the Society, but at the same time to approve of the Button to be worn.

"5th. Because the amendment has the appearance, however much the supporters of it assert to the contrary, of showing a decided and marked want of gratitude to Lord Kinnaird, one of the late Captains of the Society, who took the trouble of first soliciting and obtaining Royal Patronage to the Society, who was at the expense of the original Die for the Button, and who also made a handsome donation of Buttons to the Society, besides presenting the Society with a seal.

Lastly. The undersigned beg it to be distinctly understood that they have no wish whatever to disturb the harmony which has for so long existed among its members, but earnestly hope by adhering steadily and firmly to its rules, to maintain peace and good feeling, which has hitherto existed in this and ought to exist in all well-governed Societies, still they consider proper to urge the foregoing reasons of protest against

the amendment for change being carried into effect, and in doing so, their sole and only wish is not only to prevent schism and confusion, but to encourage harmony in and to advance the prosperity of the Society."

The first three signatures on this protest are those of Sir Thomas Moncreiffe, Bart., Colonel Murray Belshes of Invermay, and Mr Chas. Robertson, Buttergask, and witness to the strength of the opposition.

PROTEST TOO LATE.

But this protest came too late for the Council had been instructed to proceed with the remit of 21st April, 1841, and to submit their selection of a new button for the approval of Her Majesty, and though it does not appear from the minutes that Her Majesty's approval was ever asked or given, it is minuted that on the 10th September, 1841, the Council made choice of a button, and ordered 50 dozen for the coat and 50 dozen for the vest. Yet eleven days later they were ordered at a General Meeting to suspend procedure in the matter, until the sentiments of another General Meeting were obtained.

The new button was of convex formation. One might call it of bulger make, showing the arms of the City of Perth, with a crown superimposed, and having the initials of the Club on a ribbon at the foot, and a Scotch thistle on either side. held the field for the long period of fifty years, but during the half century there were those in the Club who felt that a march had been stolen on them by the substitution of the Victorian button for the King William one. The feeling at last found expression at a General Meeting on October, 1895, in an inquiry of Mr R. W. R. Mackenzie, as to "by what authority the change had been made." The Secretary, Mr Kinloch, reported on April, 1897, that he had looked into the matter and found, as we have seen, that there was a majority of three in favour of a new button, and that the Council had been instructed to give effect to the change, but that a protest had been lodged in eleven days by 20 members. Mr Mackenzie not being present at the meeting, it was moved by Major Dundas and seconded by Mr Geo. A. Mackenzie, and unanimously agreed to, that the Club should re-adopt the original button which had received the approval of H.M. King William IV., and which would now become the uniform and authorised button for the members. Here was unanimity at last, on a question which had for fifty years divided the Club, and which had been settled by an illegal vote, but it came at a time when the uniform red golf coat was going out of fashion, and each player had begun in point of tailoring to suit his own convenience, and the buttons are now and meanwhile, as archaic as the top hat.

BATTLE OF THE INCH.

In the early weeks of 1861, Perth Town Council resolved to make an effort to beautify the North Inch, by planting clumps of trees of various kinds here and there throughout it, and making an avenue lined with trees round about it. The parks of other cities were heavily timbered; why should the North Inch be left in pasturable nakedness?

There are few more beautiful things in Nature than trees, and few things that repay so well the trouble of planting. After being placed in position, they can be left for years to look after themselves. A famous Scottish laird of old, who knew the value of timber, and the benefits it conferred while growing, used to say:—"Aye be stickin' in a tree, it'll be growin' when y'er sleepin'."

An Edinburgh expert was accordingly employed by the Lord Provost and Bailies on behalf of the community to select the trees and determine where they could best be planted so as to break the openness of the Inch. They would combine adornment with utility, for in time they would afford shelter to man and beast from the summer glare or the unlooked-for downpour; and does not "the shade of the green-wood tree" either at noontide or in the faint moonlight suggest a charm

and romance that appeal both to young and old?

AN EXCAMBION.

But the powers of the Town Council with regard to the Inches have been in a way restricted. In the deed that was drawn up and accepted at the date of the excambion effected by the Town Council with the Right Hon. Robert Drummond Hay of Kinnoull in the beginning of the eighteenth century, it is shown that the North Inch is not to be interfered with in any way that would prove detrimental to the



Dr Fraser Thomson, F.R.S.E., an eminent physician in Perth of last century.

enjoyment of it by the inhabitants of the burgh. The deed or contract of excambion of the lands of Muirton and the Stanners for the lands of Tullylumb and Unthank was given in for registration before Archibald Campbell, Esq., Sheriff Depute of Perthshire in January, 1803, and it is repeatedly stipulated therein that "the said Inch shall be kept solely as a lawn," and further that when extended in manner before and after mentioned, "it shall not on any account be either ploughed or built upon, or feued or alienated by the said community for any purpose of building, agriculture or other purposes inconsistent with the pleasurable use and enjoyment of the said North Inch as a lawn or green."

On this understanding, the contracting parties "with all due reverence and humility as becometh and simply by staff and baton, as use is, resigned and surrendered all and whole, the foresaid. One penny Scots to be paid annually on the ground, if called for."

There is nothing in this agreement, that would prevent the Town Council, with the assent of the community, planting a few trees on the Inch. But on a cricket or football pitch, or on a golf course, trees are anathema. There is no rule in the Royal and Ancient code dealing with a golf ball that has been trapped among the branches of a tree, and we know no Perth rule requiring a player to ascend a tree and play a ball caught in the cleft of a branch.

ROYAL PERTH GOLFING SOCIETY'S OBJECTION.

When it was found that the clumps of timber were likely to prove obstacles on the golf course of the old North Inch of Perth, the Royal Perth Golfing Society drew up the following resolutions which were moved by Lord Stormont, seconded by Lord Charles Kerr, and unanimously agreed to:—

- 1. That the practice of Golf is deserving of every encouragement, both because the game is a National Game of the highest antiquity, and because it affords the best means of healthy and manly recreation.
- 2. That the right of Golfers to play over grounds belonging to the public has been generally allowed and encouraged throughout Scotland, and in various instances has been solemnly recognised by the Law Courts of the Country.
- 3. That in particular the Royal Perth Golfing Society has been in the undisputed practice of playing over the Inches of Perth for a period beyond the memory of man, and the Society has a legal right to the use of the Inches for the purposes of the game.

4. That without impugning the general right of the Magistrates and Town Council of Perth to execute any judicious and well-advised improvements on the Inches, which may be agreeable to the community, the Golfing Society deeply regret the operation recently undertaken by the Council for planting trees on the North Inch, the same being calculated to destroy the peculiar features and amenity of the Inch, to lessen its value and utility as a place of public resort and recreation, and to deprive the Golfing Society (in common with other bodies, having similar objects in view) of the facilities to which they have an undoubted right.

5. That in these circumstances, and as public opinion has been unequivocally expressed against the proposed planting, the Perth Golfing Society trust that the Council will at once abandon the proposal, and restore the North Inch to its former state.

6. That the Secretary be instructed to communicate a copy of the foregoing resolutions to the Magistrates and Town Council.

But besides laying these weighty resolutions before the Town Council as being the unanimous opinion of the Golfing Society, several of the leading members of the time, along with other prominent citizens, signed a requisition to the Lord Provost that he should call a public meeting to be held in the City Hall for the purpose of discussing the matter and coming to a decision about it. was done, and so much feeling and interest had been aroused that a large company assembled, and "the City Hall was literally packed in every corner."

The Lord Provost, William Imrie. presided at the meeting, and several members of the Royal Golfing Society took part in the proceedings. The first resolution was moved by Dr. Fraser Thomson. It was as follows:-"That the inhabitants of Perth justly entertain a lively admiration for the peculiar and varied beauties of the North Inch and a strong sense of its importance as a place of recreation for the public generally, and they are decidedly opposed to the operations contemplated and already authorised by the Council, which, if carried out, would in their opinion, have the effect of impairing those beauties and lessening the advantage of the Inch as a place of free and healthy exercise and recreation."

Dr. Thomson stated that a gentleman of known eloquence (Mr George Patton, adv.) was to have moved the resolution, but another engagement had prevented him attending, but in his letter of apology he pointed out that the North Inch was not like private policies, to be cut up and planted at the fancy of any Dr. Thomson said it authority. must be patent to everyone who had eyes in his head, and who looked at the magnificent plains of the Inches that they were beautiful valuable beyond compare as places of recreation for the inhabitants of "Were the Inches alone," he asked, "for cattle or for bleaching, or for games and exercise such as cricket and golf? They were for all these together, for quoits, bowls, cricket, golf, football and shinty; and would the operations at present being conducted adapt the Inches more perfectly to all or any of these purposes?"

Landscape Gardening.

PERTH'S TWO FAIR MAIDS.

"Our Fair City," said Dr. Fraser Thomson in continuation of his speech, "is celebrated among other things for the beauty of its situation and the classic beauty of its inhabitants.

"It was said by the super-eminent novelist in 'The Fair Maid of Perth,' that the city had but one fair maid, but he thought the city had two fair maids, one at the north and the other at the south of the town, and these fair maids were the two Miss Inches. Let them look at them in their unrivalled beauty, and they would agree with him that they could not be improved. Those who

had never lived beyond the confines of the city could scarcely realise the beauty of the scene in the midst of which they lived.

"Keeping in mind that they had two such beautiful ladies to preserve in all their beauty, could they submit to their being despoiled? did not know if they were aware of what the fashion was among the Ladies of Court a century ago! However beautiful a lady was formed by nature, it was not They were not deemed sufficient. satisfied without putting patches of black court plaster here and there all over their countenances, and they were called beauty spots. did not wish any beauty spots to be stuck upon the faces of the two Miss He wanted to preserve their beauty in all its natural simplicity, in the full belief that with them 'beauty unadorned is adorned the most.'

"The majority of the Council acted from the very best of motives —to make the town more agreeable valuable to the inhabitants. But if the sentiments of the inhabitants should be proved to be contrary to the opinions of the majority of the Council, he humbly suggested that the Council should yield to the request of their fellowcitizens, and restore the Inches to their original condition. The inhabitants of the city were the constituents of the Council, and the guardians of their property, and to the Council they looked to do that which was in accordance with their feelings and wishes."

The resolution was seconded by Major Jelf Sharp of Kincarrathie, who said that as a military man he had seen many parts of the world. but he had never seen anything like the North and South Inches of Perth. They were unique in every way. After an absence of two months he had been surprised on his return, when he looked from Perth Bridge across the Inch to see a number of what would he call them? (Cries of sticks, whipshafts, firewood, etc., and loud laughter). was thankful to say that these trees were so small that they could not be seen from the Bridge, and he was afraid they would yet be smaller than they were. In looking at these erections he could not imagine that they were anything but a protection against cattle, and whether they would remain to be such he did not know. But there was a smaller animal than cows-a two-legged animal, much more destructive than the cows-the Perth boy-and he was afraid the erections would not stand for many months, for they would interfere very much with the practice of their games upon the Inches.

After a few remarks by Mr George Brown and Mr David Ross. who as Lord Provost in 1864, was knighted by Queen Victoria on the occasion of the unveiling of the Albert Statue on the North Inch. Mr Melville Jameson proposed the concluding resolution, which was calculated to pour oil upon the troubled waters, that the inhabitants entertaining a sincere regard for the Lord Provost, Magistrates Councillors, tender them a vote of thanks for their constant attention to the affairs of the town, and desire to express the hope that the continuance of any contest between the Council and the inhabitants may at once be stopped and that matters may be restored to their usual quiet He thought they and happy state. might expect that the Council would withdraw these operations on the North Inch, and when they had done so, they (the inhabitants) would extend their pardon to them and tender them a hearty vote of thanks.

In concluding the meeting, the Lord Provost said he felt proud to preside over such a large gathering of citizens, and he would do all in his power to carry out the resolutions which had been unanimously agreed to.

But the end was not yet, for the speeches had so enflamed the feelings of many of the audience, that as they dispersed and passed into the Market Square, a cry arose among the youths, some of them caddies, who felt that their occupation was being threatened by the obstructions on the golf course—"To

the Inch—Down with the Trees!" Like the multitude whose feelings Knox stirred to their very depth by his sermon in the adjoining Kirk of the Holy Cross of St. John, they were bent on destruction, and, rushing to the Inch, in an incredibly short space of time, reduced the whole of the cradles and the young trees to the merest fragments, some of which were thrown into the Tay, some burnt on the spot, and others carried off as burning trophies.

At a later hour of the night, the police were obliged to interfere in the very heart of the city to prevent parties from parading the streets, brandishing burning faggots and "rejoicing in a kind of Red Indian hallo at the downfall of the trees!"

The Council had to determine what action should be taken on the resolutions passed at the public meeting, and accordingly they met the follow-

ing week to discuss the matter and decide what should be done. James Dewar moved that in respect of the lawlessness and violence displayed by a certain section of the community in the matter of the planting of the Inches, the Council decline in the meantime to take any further action in relation thereto. The Lord Provost moved an amendment to the effect that while the Council resolve that all the trees lately planted in the room of others which had been cut down, and also the tree near to the Bridge, which is regarded as not being on the Inch, be allowed to remain, and the request of the public meeting in the City Hall be acceded to, that meeting being in no way connected with lawlessness or violence. The amendment was carried by a majority of one, one of the members declining to vote.

The First Royal Club House.

The fourth rule in the first code adopted by the Society in 1824 is to the following effect:—

"Upon the said last Saturday of April, the Society shall meet either on the North or South Inch, as may be agreed on, at 12 o'clock noon, to play for the Silver Medal, and at four o'clock they shall assemble within one of the principal inns of the City, when the Annual General Meeting shall be held for the appointment of office-bearers and other routine business. The members of the Society shall then dine together, the Captain acting as Chairman, and the Secretary as Croupier, and the Treasurer shall be entitled to pay from the Society's funds the full amount of the tavern bill, when the same does not exceed 7/6 for each ordinary member of the Society, but when it exceeds this sum, those who are present and occasion the extra expense shall defray it."

The Society was without a "local habitation," although it had a room in Jackson's house in Princes Street, in which the members could have lockers for their clubs and balls.

The rental of the room was £5 per annum.

This arrangement lasted only for three years. The proprietor of the house, named Glass, called upon the Club to pay Jackson's arrears of rent, while Jackson demanded an increase of pay for supplying the members with towels and water.

As no satisfactory arrangement could be come to with the tenant and the proprietor, the Society removed in 1828 to the house of one Findlater, in Princes Street, on more reasonable terms, viz., £3 15/- per annum. The dinners of the Club were held either in the Salutation Inn or the Star Inn, the latter of these having as "mine host" a former butler of Moncreiffe House, a persona grata to a Club over which Sir David so worthily presided.

The scene of action was, as the rule states, either the North or South Inch, according as the members agreed, and for the first decade of the Club's existence, play was over the latter green. Golf, at that time, was being played on both Inches, although the preference seems to have been towards the

South Inch on which James VI. is said to have played before succeeding to the English throne.

In 1836 the Council, consisting of Major J. Murray Belshes and Messrs Alexander Whitson, James Condie, and Dr. David Halket, resolved to purchase, and did, with approval of the Society, a shop at the foot of Charlotte Street, now the office of the Secretary of the Club, at the price of one hundred and fifty pounds, and it was then fitted up and furnished as a Clubroom at a cost of seventy pounds.

OPPOSITION TO BACKGAMMON BOARD.

Two years later a little diversion was created by the fact that a backgammon board had been introduced into the Club-house, and that some of the members objected to its use as foreign to the purpose of the The Council, headed by Society. Major Belshes, took the same view and ordered its removal. Balvaird then gave notice of a motion to be moved at the General Meeting that the backgammon box In support of his be restored. motion, he stated that the game was a source of amusement to some of the members, but, in a counter motion, Major Belshes characterised it as a nuisance, and moved that the action of the Council be upheld. This became the finding of the meeting, and the Council was thanked for so promptly expelling the intrusive pastime.

The next venture of the Society was the purchase of the shop adjoining the Clubhouse, with cellars and an attic room, for the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds. This provided the extra accommodation which the increased membership required, as well as a room for the caretaker.

The charges entailed in this additional accommodation absorbed so much of the revenue of the Society, that it was found necessary to curtail the annual outlay; and from that date the practice which had prevailed from the institution of the Club of defraying the cost of the annual dinner, was given up and

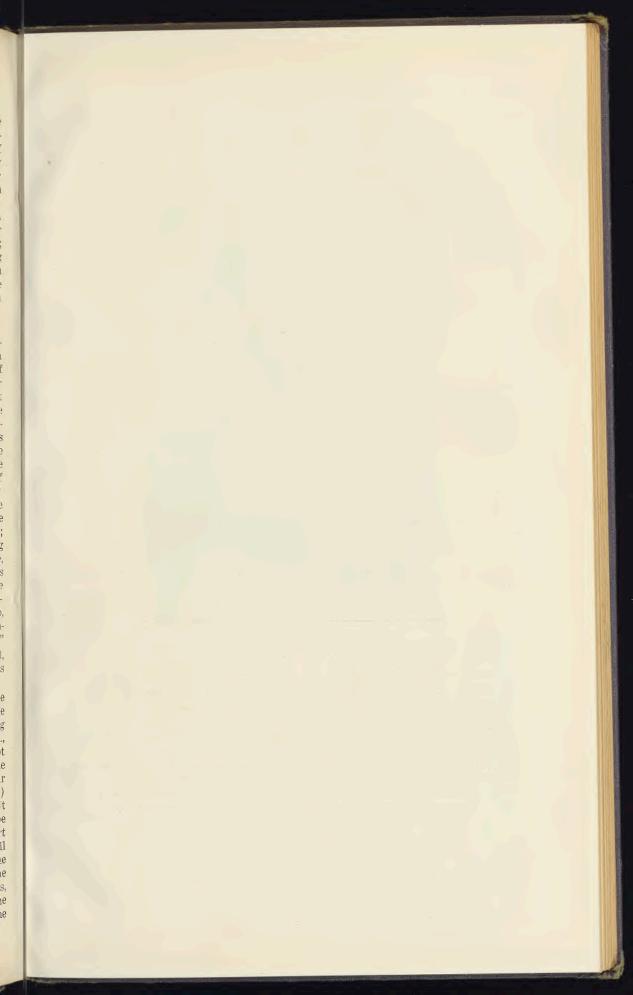
those present on the occasion were required each to bear his own bur-But even this measure of den. economy was insufficient to rectify the balance. The Club had never before been faced with so large an outlay, and in a few years the balance due to the Secretary reached a total of £80, on the following year there was a deficiency of over £100; and, at the annual General Meeting in 1847, it was resolved to make a voluntary annual contribution of one pound per member, to prevent an accumulation of arrears.

THE SOCIETY'S FINANCES.

But this system of voluntary subscriptions proved to be ineffectual in relieving the Society of its burden of debt, and it was felt that stronger measures were required, so that at the autumn meeting in 1848, the following resolution was adopted:-"As it appears from the accounts that the annual revenue of the Society is insufficient to meet the expenditure, the meeting is of opinion that part of the property would require to be sold, or some other means devised to pay off the debt, and meet ordinary expenses; they therefore remit to the following members as a committee of finance. to consider and report what steps ought to be taken to relieve the Society from its pecuniary embarrassments, viz., Major Jelf Sharp, Dr. Fraser Thomson, Arch. I. Turnbull; Major Sharp to be convener."

At the General Meeting in April, 1849, the Committee's Report was presented. It was as follows:—

"The Committee appointed at the last General Meeting to investigate the affairs of the Society, having duly inspected the accounts, etc., have now to report that the debt amounts at this time to £88, the expenditure to about £30 a year (including the interest of the debt) and the income to £6 6s a year. has been suggested that the income might be increased by letting part of the Club premises, but after a full consideration of this point, the committee are of opinion that the expense of the necessary alterations, and the necessity of paying for the services of a person to attend to the





MAJOR R. T. BOOTHBY, St. Andrews, son-in-law of Mr James Condie, Perth.

Colonel Robert Tod Boothby, medallist both of the R. and A. and the Perth Royal Society, was born in 1830, and educated at Eton and Cambridge. He then joined the 79th Cameron Highlanders, was quartered in Canada, and later at Perth, where he learned golf as a member of the Royal Perth Golfing Society. Leaving the regiment in the year of his marriage to Miss Condie in 1852, he entered the Forfar and Kincardine Artillery Militia, serving with it during its embodiment as Captain and Major, in Ireland, at Montrose and at Fort George. He was Adjutant of the Fife Artillery Volunteers, living in St. Andrews from 1861 to 1878, and from that year till 1882 he was also Adjutant in the Edinburgh City Artillery Volunteers. From 1882 till 1892 he acted as Colonel-Commandant of the Fife Volunteer Artillery, when, after a period of service extending over more than forty years, he finally retired.

Clubroom, etc., would leave but a very small addition to the funds of the Club, certainly not exceeding £5 Under these undesirable a year. circumstances it would appear that the committee had no other alternative than to recommend the sale of the whole premises, and the dissolution of the Society. But considering the Royal and distinguished patronage it has so long enjoyed, and the high position of many of its members, and the number of excellent golfers it has produced, they are reluctant to propose, in the first place, such an extreme course, and would wish to make previously an earnest appeal to its friends and supporters to come forward and rescue it from a position so unworthy of its former high standing. With this view the committee beg leave to propose that every playing member of the Club do pay a voluntary subscription of one guinea a year, and any other member 10/6 a year (the names of such contributors to be put up in the Clubroom). They further recommend that in future new members be admitted at a subscription of one guinea a year, and one guinea entrance (with a proportionate life commutation), and that as these new members increase, the voluntary subscriptions be proportionally lessened. The committee further suggest that the utmost economy be observed in the expenditure, in order that a sinking fund be formed to pay off the debt and, in conclusion, desire to record their decided conviction that the above plan is the only effectual one for restoring the Society to its former prosperous condition. (Signed) H. Jelf Sharp."

"N.B.—The committee further recommend that the annual dinner at the competitions for the Golf Medals be revived as tending greatly to promote the prosperity and good-fellowship of the Society."

The meeting was not satisfied that the recommendations of the committee would meet the emergency, and suggested that the two rooms to the west of the common passage should be disposed of, as being not absolutely necessary for the accommodation of the members, and accordingly remitted the matter to the committee for fuller consideration, with two other members added, viz., Dr. H. B. Macfarlane and Mr William Peddie, of Feu House.

How the Society Reached its "Golden Age."

The next report of the committee was very similar to the first one, with the exception, that instead of proposing a voluntary subscription it recommended that the annual subscription should be raised to one guinea, and this proposal unanimously agreed to. As to the suggestion that two of the Society's rooms should be sold, the committee "considered that it would be highly inexpedient to make such a sacrifice of the property, which, while it would detract very much from the comfort and respectability of the Club, would not meet the difficulty, which is in fact to provide an income of about £25 a year, to cover the current expenses." For this purpose, and also to form a Sinking Fund to pay off the debt, the committee proposed the raising of the annual subscription, except in the case of non-playing members and any who were under age.

The result was the gratifying one of the gradual reduction of the debt.

For a few years, prior to 1858, the secretary, Mr Gray, was able to carry on with the help of a few generous members, but came to the conclusion that some new method was required to put the club on a sound financial basis, and that after 34 years of faithful service, he might ask the club to relieve him from further anxiety on its behalf. accordingly gave in his resignation, stating that he was of opinion "that the interests of the Society would be promoted by the appointment of a more youthful member of the club, who might succeed better than he could in infusing fresh blood into the Society and giving a stimulus to the game."

THE NEW SECRETARY.

Mr Peter Brown, C.E., was elected to the vacant office. His term of service was very brief, as he removed to Glasgow within the same year. But short as it was, it was still a memorable one, for immediately after his appointment he submitted the details of a scheme by which it was thought both golfers and non-golfers would benefit alike, and which was calculated to bring a considerable accession of members into the Society.

The Exchange News Room, which with a Coffee Room had existed for some years in George Street and had been well patronised by the county people on their occasional visits to the city had been closed, and some of the townsmen missed the opportunity they had enjoyed of reading the London daily newspapers in the days of Stage-coaches in Perth.

The new Secretary saw thus a chance offered by which he could utilise the spare accommodation in Society's premises, meet the demand of the disappointed readers, and at the same time put the finances of the club in a more satisfactory state. This is how he unfolded his scheme to the Council of the Society:—

"1st. That as it appears from the books that for some years back the club has been chiefly supported by voluntary contributions by playing members, while many annual members retained on the list were heavily in arrears—it seems expedient so to remodel the club as to render the subscriptions in advance compulsory and equitable.

"2nd. That from the recent discontinuance of the Exchange Newsroom a good opportunity offers of regulating and enlarging the Society by introducing sufficient papers into the Clubroom, which papers shall be considered accessible only to such members of the Club, present or future, as shall have specially subscribed thereto, and paid up their arrears from this time or from the date of their election.

"3rd. That it is not expedient to insist on the payment of back arrears, but that as an inducement,

all annual members now on the list as such, may join the News Room without re-election and entry money, and that while the voluntary contributions of playing members or others will still be welcome, the uniform rate, say of 10/6 per annum, by all members, whether life or annual, in addition to the ordinary subscriptions, will it is hoped suffice to meet the expenditure of the Society.

"New members to be admitted only under the existing rules."

The Council unanimously recommended the adoption of the scheme provided a sufficient number of subscribers be obtained.

The minute of the General Meeting of October, 1858, bearing upon the matter, is a very significant one. It reads as follows:—"The subject of the proposed News Room as detailed in the minutes of Council was fully discussed, and the meeting unanimously agree to the immediate adoption of the scheme, Mr Charles Robertson alone dissenting and formally protesting against it."

ORIGIN OF KING JAMES VI.

While the adoption of the proposal was calculated to relieve the financial pressure that had so long troubled the Society, it had another and altogether unlooked for result. It became the ostensible cause for formation of a new Golf Club, which Mr (and Rev.) Charles Robertson founded upon principles so self-denying and austere that even newspapers were tabooed within the club-room.

It seems a little strange that the introduction of newspapers should have so deeply offended the feelings of one so genial, broad-minded and gifted with humour, as his portrait and common report show Mr Robertson to have been, that we are impelled to the belief that he had found a number of kindred spirits outside of the Royal Golf Society in Perth convinced that there was room for a new combination of golfers and that they had persuaded him "to set the ball rolling."

Whatever may have been the underlying motive, the closing days of

December, 1858 saw the foundation laid of a Club of which the Rev. Charles Robertson was elected the first captain, and not only did he present it with its first medal for annual competition, but gave it its very suggestive title, "The King James VI. Golf Club."

GOLF AT A DISCOUNT.

While the Reading Room had a list of over forty members, there were in 1859 only sixteen regular members on Royal Club's list. Nor did the Society benefit much by the institution of the Reading Room for the subscriptions of the members did not balance the charges that were incurred for newspapers, fire, light and attendance.

The following newspapers were supplied to the club by Mr Robertson, newsagent, High Street:—"The Times," "Sun," "Illustrated London News," "Edinburgh Courant," "Scotsman," "Glasgow Daily Mail," "Perth Courier," "Perth Advertiser," "The Field" and "Wellington Gazette."

Golf at that date seems to have been at a discount. At the spring

meeting of the club only eight members attended. At the autumn meeting the attendance was little better, and at the Council Meeting, Mr George Condie was the only Councillor present along with Mr Melville Jameson, who had succeeded Mr Brown as Secretary. The few months during which he held office, had convinced the Secretary that the position entailed responsibilities of a kind he had not anticipated at first. Mr Melville Jameson accordingly handed in his He intimated his inresignation. ability in consequence of other engagements, to perform the duties of Secretary and Treasurer in a satisfactory manner. He had prepared a statement of the sums he had advanced to the Society, showing a balance due to him of £22 17s 6d. The meeting, in consideration of the absolute necessity of the annual revenue being immediately attended to and collected, deemed it proper to make an interim appointment of Mr William Maury, solicitor, to act as Secretary and Treasurer.

Royal Society Secures Permanent Abode.

Mr Maury, by careful attention, was able to keep the expenditure within the limits of the income, but was not able to repay the balance due to his predecessor, which was eventually met by compromise by a few private subscriptions.

In 1864, the year of first Perth tournament, Mr Maury felt himself unable to undertake official duty in such a competition, and Mr Burns Macdonald, who had been elected a member three years before, was appointed as his successor.

Whether it was from the fillip given to Golf by the Perth tournament, or from the energy and financial acumen of the new Secretary, it is unquestionable that the Golfing Society at this date entered on a new lease of life. There had been for some years little attention paid to the upkeep of the course. The annual dinner had even fallen

into abeyance. But now, by the appointment of Watty M'Donald as greenkeeper, the extension of the course to twelve holes, and the resumption of the dinner, a new spirit was imparted, and the Society entered upon what may be described as its Golden Age as a golfing institution.

With the instinct of a Commissioner of Taxes, the Secretary permitted no lapses in the subscription list, and cut down expenses to the utmost limit, and each year was able to report an increased balance. This led to a demand for increased advantages, and a proposal was brought forward that a billiard room should be erected at the back of the Club-room. Estimates were taken for site and erection of building, and including the cost of a table, it was reckoned that a sum of £450 would be required. Private subscriptions failed to come in.

BLACKFRIARS HOUSE.

In 1871 an effort was made to secure Blackfriars House, which had been for many years the residence and business premises of Mr James Condie, as quarters for the society.

Though gloomy looking in its situation at the North Port, it was in the necessary vicinity to the Inch, and was spacious enough to accommodate a much larger membership than the Royal Club numbered.

It could have been secured at a rent of £70 per annum, but the state of the funds and the prospect of a considerable outlay in furnishing it suitably, did not warrant the Council in recommending the acceptance of the offer. Then, three years later, followed a proposal to purchase the house. No. 3 Charlotte Street, which was then in the market. It had the advantage of direct communication with the Inch, and had room enough to accommodate even an augmented A whisper of a membership. threatening of dry rot impelled the Council to recommend caution, and an offer was accordingly restricted Eventually it was found, to £850. to the chagrin of the Club, that the agent had unexpectedly disposed of it to a higher bidder.

The Savings Bank, before its removal to its present position in Tay Street, stood alongside the Royal Club premises in Charlotte Street.

Through the kind offices of Mr Melville Jameson, the Club got the first offer of the building the bank was about to vacate, but, after a careful inspection of the premises, the Council were "unanimously of opinion that they were not suitable for the wants of the club."

NEW CLUB PREMISES SECURED.

But at length after long and patient search, an opportunity opened up of obtaining a building likely to prove in point of site and size both adequate and convenient. It was found that although owned by two different proprietors, and occupied by three separate tenants, it would be possible to purchase at a reasonable figure, the tenement which united Atholl Crescent to Blackfriars

Street, and which overlooked the North Inch. With its picturesque outlook and its proximity to the golf green, it occupied an ideal position for the purposes of the society, and the secretary was instructed to take immediate steps to come to terms with the proprietors. Assisted by the goodwill of two members of the club, Dr. Andrew Buist and Rev. Dr. Anderson, who both had family interests in the building, a settlement was arrived at, though it required both time and tact to meet the claims and convenience of three tenants. two owners, and one life-renter.

At a meeting of Council in July, 1875, Mr Harry Hunter, "on behalf of Messrs George Condie, Conning & Co., intimated having communicated to Mr Robertson, agent for the Misses Buist, and to Messrs R. H. Moncrieff, agents for Mrs Anderson, that the transaction with reference to the purchase of the respective properties had been arranged with the parties and might now be considered as completed."

Charlotte Street house, which had been for forty years a centre of intercourse among the members, and in its time had seen many of the leading Scottish golfers, was now for sale; and before long an arrangement which advantaged both parties was come to, by which Mr Ritchie, C.E., who occupied the lower flat of what was to be the new Club house. became the purchaser, willing to remove from Atholl Crescent when the Club so desired, while the Society, for several excellent reasons, authorised him to prepare a plan of the alterations necessary for the conversion of their new premises to the purpose for which they were intended. The estimated cost of these was £750. and the Council, in deferring some of the proposed improvements, reduced the amount to £600. Then the cost of furnishing the various rooms and providing a billiards table added considerably to the outlay. A circular issued inviting members to send in voluntary subscriptions to meet so large an expenditure was heartily responded to, and a sum of nearly £900 was provided in this way.

A CLUB-MASTER.

A Club-master was appointed in August, 1876 at a salary of £60 per annum, and a new code of rules to suit the new condition of things was drawn up by the Council and approved of at the General Meeting.

In October, 1876, the title of the society was altered by the addition of "County and City Club."

THE ACCOUNTS.

The Secretary did not follow the practice of Mr George Gray of giving the annual statement of accounts in extenso, but presented instead an epitomised form. His report on his income and expenditure in connection with the removal from Charlotte Street to Atholl Crescent is an exceedingly brief one. It is called "An Abstract showing the State of Affairs for the two years from October, 1875, to October, 1877," during which period the new extended Club had been organised:-Receipts from all

receipts from an		
sources	£755	0 0
Payments already		
made £535 0	0	
Estimated out-		
standing a/cs 220 0	0 £755	0 0
To meet the above		
outstanding a/cs.	£220	0 0
There is in bank 219 10	0	
Arrears of sub-		
scriptions, all		
consid. good 33 12	0 253	2 0
•		

£33 2 0

Shewing estimated

surplus of

A transaction of this sort, involving the purchase and alteration of new premises and the furnishing and organisation of the Club house, from the election of a Club-master downwards, entailed a great deal of anxious work upon the Council and added largely to the duties of the Hon. Secretary, and it was accordingly felt that some recognition was due to him at the completion of his labours in this connection. It was therefore remitted to the Council to consider the matter and report to next General Meeting.

TRIBUTE TO SECRETARY.

The Secretary had in 1872 been the recipient of a very handsome testimonial, consisting of "a most tasteful and elegant piece of silver plate, a C.F. breech-loading gun, and handsome gold watch, each bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the members of the Royal Perth Golfing Society to A. Burns Macdonald, Esq. of Glencoe, as a mark of regard and esteem for him as their Secretary, 1872."

As Mr Macdonald contemplated resigning the office of Secretary and Treasurer, the proposal to present him with a second testimonial was abandoned. Instead, an arrangement was come to by which the sum of thirty guineas per annum was allowed to him as provision necessary for the services of a clerk. On this new footing the Secretary expressed himself as willing to continue to hold the appointment.

Although no personal gift of appreciation marked the termination of his labours in connection with the Club's removal to more fitting and commodious quarters, the Secretary was not left without a generous recognition of the indebtedness of the members to him, for the part he had taken in its accomplishment. April, 1877, he duly reported that the new premises in which the General Meeting was held for the first time, were now out of the tradesmen's hands, the furnishing complete, or nearly so, and that the whole had now been thrown open to members. The meeting expressed their cordial approval and satisfaction with the whole internal arrangements. The chairman, Mr Maxtone Graham, took the opportunity of referring to the circumstance of their meeting in their new and extended premises, and said he felt sure he expressed the feeling of every member of the Society when he acknowledged their deep obligation to the Secretary for the manner in which he had always conducted the business of the Club, and especially for the unwearied zeal, activity and ability he had displayed in carrying out, and completing the operations of the past year, which had enabled the members to enjoy the comforts and the privileges of such an admirable and well-appointed Club-house. He proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr Burns Macdonald, which was unanimously and very cordially responded to. The meeting referred it to the chairman and Mr R. C. L. Blair to draw up a notice for insertion in the minutes of the day's proceedings.

ANOTHER PURCHASE.

The benefits and comforts which the new Club-house offered to the city and county, proved so attractive not only to the votaries of golf, but to many who could not distinguish between a bulger and a baffy, but who found it a convenient rendezvous for meeting their friends or for lunching and reading the newspapers, that the membership was greatly increased. This had the effect that in less than a score of the rooms became very crowded, and it was felt that some extension must be made else the Club would require to remove to more commodious quarters. After a number of suggestions had been brought forward for the latter alternative, it was happily found that the adjoining house belonging to the late Mrs Craigie was to be put up for sale. It was at once proposed that the Club should purchase it and add it to their present building. A small committee, consisting of Lord Balvaird, the captain; Mr R. W. R. Mackenzie, and the Secretary, Mr Kinloch, was empowered to carry through the purchase, and at a meeting of Council in March, 1896, the committee reported that it had purchased the house at the price of £1093 7s.

DISPUTED TITLE.

But an unfortunate hitch occurred shortly after, which is revealed in the minute of the General Meeting of April the same year. It reads, "A question has arisen to the title of the property now purchased, which the Council are advised is radically defective; and it is only on the assumption that a good and valid title will be offered that the following recom-

mendations are made. Should no such title be offered the Club will be entitled either to withhold payment of the price or to resile altogether from the purchase." In a fortnight, the Secretary was instructed by the Council "to insist upon a good and valid title being given, and if this is not done by the term of Whitsunday to consign the price (£1093 7s) in bank in the joint names of the purchaser's and seller's agents, and to take possession of the property."

It was reported in June at a meeting of Council that "possession of the house had been taken by the Club, and the work of alterations was being proceeded with." This was evidently too much for Major Craigie, C.B., owner of the house. He lived at Lympstone, Devon. Accordingly, at the meeting of Council for the following month, it is minuted that "The Secretary laid on the table print of a note of suspension and interdict which Major Craigie had raised in the Court of Session against the Trustees of the Club, craving interdict against any interference with the premises of No. 2 Atholl Crescent. At the hearing the Lord Ordinary refused interim interdict, and, acting on the advice of Counsel, the Secretary had agreed that the question of the title should be referred to the Dean of Faculty, which had been done." By the end of the month the Secretary was able to report to the Council that "the Dean of Faculty to whom the question of the title to the new house had been referred, had suggested a means of putting the title in order, and had found that the expense of the reference fell to be paid by Major Craigie." The case was then summarily dealt with in the Court of Session, and very satisfactorily for the defendants.

COST OF NEW PREMISES, ETC.

Mr Heiton had charge of the alterations necessary for uniting the two buildings. At the General Meeting in April, 1898, the secretary stated that the sum of £3052 0s 11d had been expended on the purchase of the new Club-house, and on alterations and furniture—namely, price of house with expense of title, bond,

and debentures, £1173 5s 8d; alterations, £1518 16s 6d; furnishings, £359 18s 9d—total, £3052 0s 11d. The greater part of this sum was raised by means of debentures of £50 and £100, which were taken up by twenty-two members of the Club.

The Club was now in possession of commodious and appointed Club-house, conveniently situated for the practice of golf upon the North Inch.

SUCCEEDING SECRETARIES.

When Mr Burns Macdonald resigned the secretaryship in 1885, one of his sons, Mr Duncan Macdonald, was appointed to the office with a salary of £50 per annum. arrangement, however, only lasted a couple of years, when Mr Melville Jameson, jun., was appointed to succeed him. Mr Jameson gave faithful service, continuing in office six years, and in 1893 Mr Robert Kinloch, W.S., agent of the Clydesdale Bank, was appointed successor, and held office up to 1919, when Mr Henry J. Bell, C.E., was appointed.

In these later years the office was no sinecure, and the Secretary received a salary of £40 per annum. The duties of attending to the catering and management of a Society of 200 members is no light task. For a number of years before the Great War it was under the supervision of a Clubinaster and male attend-After the war, the domestic concernments, etc., were given over to Clubmistress Stewart, and other arrangement servants, and this worked very well and satisfactorily. Besides attending to these domesticities, there is a monthly meeting of the Council, now numbering eight members. There are extra Council meetings when necessary, and the two General Meetings in spring and autumn take a lot of preparation. Mr Bell has given efficient and painstaking service, and has given every assistance in the preparation of this history of the Royal Golfing Society.

THE NORTH INCH.

There is an old tradition that the and South Inches were assigned to the town of Perth by John Mercer, a wealthy citizen, on condition that he was granted a burial place in the Kirk of St John. This transaction could only have taken place during the life-time of the said John Mercer, and implied that the two Inches were his property. There is evidence of this regarding the North Inch, for King Robert III. granted to John Mercer in 1374 a portion of land lying outside the Castlegable, and beyond the wall of the garden of the Blackfriars to the road leading to the Stormont. This land must have been at least part of the North Inch, for the road to the Stormont led up the centre of it. Whether John Mercer ever made such a bargain about a place of burial no satisfactory proof has been preserved; but the story was handed down and got such credence that some waggish rhymster tried to show that the donor of the Inches had over-reached the civil and ecclesiastical authorities, in the couplet:-

"Folk say the Mercers tried the town to cheat, When for twa Inches they did win six feet."

There was a Latin inscription over the tomb in St John's Kirk in which the writer of the epitaph had made a slip of a hundred years. It testified to the high character of John Mercer and the esteem in which he was held by his fellow citizens, for he had not only filled the civic chair, but represented the town in Parliament, and had even been sent as Scottish Ambassador to both the Courts of England and France. The inscription was as follows :--

"Mercer solennem lapis claudet iste Johannem, Qui dum vivebat, gratus in urbe fuit. Mille ducentenos, vixit annos octuagenos."

It is evident that the numeral should have been tercentenos, for John, the first laird of Aldie, was Provost of Perth more than once in the 14th century, and must have made his invaluable gift to the city between 1374 and 1380, the year of his death. Is it not within the

bounds of possibility that he was honoured with a place of sepulchre in St John's Kirk because of his public services and benefactions to the community of Perth?

AN OLD TIME HOSTELRY.

John Mercer may have had his town house in the Watergate, which was long the fashionable quarter of the city. He may have occupied there the building known as the "Castle" or "House of the Green." Who can tell? It remained in the possession of the Mercers of Aldie and Meikleour up to the seventeenth

century.

Up to the close of the eighteenth century the North Inch was only about one-half of its present area. It was bounded on the north by a ditch and wall, known as the White Dyke, dividing it from the Muirton Haugh. These ran from the neighbourhood of Balhousie Castle eastwards to the Tay. In 1803, an agreement of excambion was come to between the proprietor of the Muirton fields, the Earl of Kinnoull, and the Town Council, whereby the upper portion of the Inch, as we now know it, was given in exchange for the greater part of the lands of Tullylumb and Unthank, which was deemed as equivalent for the benefit the community received in the extension of its recreation ground.

NORTH INCH.

The Town Council considered that it would "tend very much to the ornament of the Town, as well as the improvement of the neighbourhood, if the flat ground of the Muirton, and the low corner of the Orchard of Balhousie, not exceeding thirty acres, and those parts of the Muirton which are incapable of culture, lying on the east side of the flat ground, and betwixt them and the River Tay, not exceeding fifteen acres, were thrown into the Inch. and an equivalent given for the same."

The Civic Rulers of that time, Thomas Hay Marshall and John Caw being the Provosts who held office when the excambion was effected, showed themselves not only far-seeing citizens but the whole Council proved themselves men of wisdom and discretion. In the agreement they bound themselves and their successors "that the North Inch when extended in the manner stated, shall not on any account be either ploughed or built upon, nor feued nor alienated by the community for any building, agricultural or other purposes, inconsistent with the pleasureable use of the North Inch as a lawn or green."

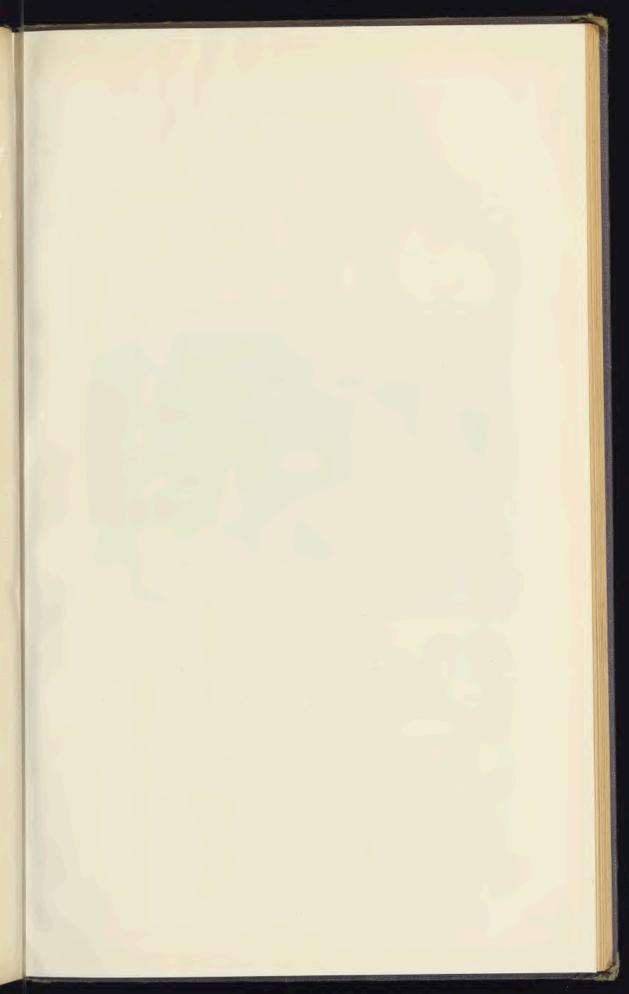
The Town Council are the custodiers of the Inches, and make their own bye-laws for superintendence or control, but the Inches themselves are for the recreation of the citizens.

A row of great trees (which weathered many a strong gale), could be seen till lately to north of Balhousie Castle; an isolated example of which, stands majestically, well out on the Inch, a veritable patriarch, possibly marks the corner of what was the lower end of Balhousie Orchard. It is well worthy of the Superintendent's preserving care, as is another close by.

OVERFLOW OF RIVER.

Up to the year 1840, there was no barrier dividing North Inch from the peninsula excepting the burn, and as a consequence the upper holes on the Inch, and indeed the Inch itself and part of the town suffered more frequently than now from the over-In 1836 we find flow of the river. that Mr James Condie suggested at a General Meeting of the Club, the propriety of having an embankment along the river at the short holes, that the same might be protected from the very frequent influx of water, and that an application should be made to the Magistrates to that effect, and in the event of their refusal, the Society should do something in the matter themselves. Whereupon the meeting appointed the following committee to consider the suggestion and act upon the same as they should see fit, viz.-Professor Anderson, and Messrs James Condie and Archibald Turnbull.

The erection of an embankment to protect the North Inch was a





THE SOUTH INCH AVENUE, PERTH.

A print of the picture by Macneill McLeay which was sent with the deputation from the Town Council to London in 1848 to protest against the Scottish Central Railway Company laying the railway on to the South Inch and building a terminus there. Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort, in their first visit to Scotland and Perth in 1842, and attended by Sir Robert Peel, drove through the beautiful South Inch Avenue in entering the Fair City.

matter of great importance to the town. Frequent flooding was not only an inconvenience to golfers, it was a discomfort and expense to many of the citizens. Part of a natural barrier, called the Muirtown Hill had been swept away in the Castle of Perth devastation and great flood of 1210, when the lower part of the town was so inundated that "not only small boats but ships of considerable burthen sailed on the streets."

PROTECTION.

It was the duty of the Town Council to endeavour to prevent the recurrence of such a catastrophe and, accordingly, when this proposal was brought before them, they gave it their hearty support. They found that the formation of such a mound at the top of the Inch would serve a double purpose, not only in protecting the town, but in providing employment for weavers and men who were out of work. In June, 1840, it is minuted that "an application from Bailie Graham (later Provost) of the Committee for providing employment to the out of work handloom weavers, etc., was laid before the meeting of the Council craving a donation from the Society for completing the improvements now in progress at the top of the North Inch, which being considered, the Council was unanimously of opinion that the improvements, so far as these have proceeded, prove to be of great advantage to the golfers, as better adapted for the game, they therefore think a portion of the Society's funds, cannot be better appropriated, and accordingly resolve to give a contribution of twenty-five pounds, to be paid when the work is completed to the satisfacton of the Council."

On the completion of the work, it was found the Mound Hole proved to be a useful hazard on the course, for the Burn Hole became also a blind hole, and although the Mound Hole was never on a par with the St. Andrews Road Hole, from its position on the narrow strip of turf between the path and the edge of the declivity, it was occasionally able to change the complexion of a game.

By the alteration of the course, for the greater safety of pedestrians, these two holes have now been eliminated greatly to the detriment of the sporting nature of the green.

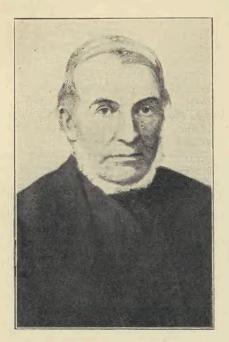
Prior to the formation of the Mound, and since 1836, when on the motion of Major Belshes, seconded by Colonel Playfair (St. Andrews) it was agreed to increase the medal rounds from eighteen to twenty holes, play began on the North Inch opposite Blackfriars House, and finished, for some years at least, on the north side of Charlotte Street, in the triangular space allotted for years, to Orde's circuses and shows. The holes at the top of the Inch seem to have been crowded together. so as to merit the description of "short holes." But, in course of time, it was deemed advisable to remove the last hole to the centre of the Inch, opposite the Academy, to the region where the Battle of the Clans was fought in 1396. for the extension of the green at the other end was found on the Peninsula, one-half of which was overgrown with whins. It was not until 1864 that the Pond Hole was added to the round, and at that date, on the motion of Major Boothby, it was decided to raise the medal round to twelve holes in view of the tournament about to be held on it.

A ST. ANDREWS DIGRESSION.

Up to the time of the introduction of the railway in the midlands of Scotland, which took place about the middle of last century, few players of golf other than land-owners and lawyers could afford to go far from their own home green to take part in any Club contests. Travelling by Stage-coach was expensive both as to time and money, and there were fewer holiday seasons and periods of leisure than there are now.

The early Medal lists of the Royal and Ancient Club show, however, that players from Perth and Leith, where the Honourable Company, then known as the Gentlemen Golfers of Leith, carried on its operations, occasionally entered the lists at the ancient ecclesiastical centre of Scotland, and showed that they could

take the leading place among the elite of the amateur golfers of the time.



Mr James Condie, one of the first officials and foremost players of the Royal Perth Golfing Society.

["P.A." Photo.

MEDAL WINNERS.

Besides the landed proprietors, it will be seen that members of the Edinburgh and Perth Bars strove for the mastery. Within the first thirty years of the century in the competitions for the Gold Medal of the Royal and Ancient Club, the names of Messrs Walter Cook, William Oliphant, David Moncreiffe. yr. of Moncreiffe, Henry M. Low, W.S., D. Duncan of Rosemount, R. Oliphant, yr. of Rossie, appear, some of them twice and even thrice over. And within the next thirty years, on the list of winners of the King William the IVth Medal, are found the names of such prominent Perth players as Mr Stuart Oliphant. Captain J. Hope Grant, Messrs James Condie, George Condie, Neil J. Fergusson Blair of Balthayock, and Thomas D. M'Whannel. In the list of the Club's Gold Medal, when it became the second prize, are the names of the Condies, father and

son, Neil Fergusson Blair, and T. D. M'Whannel. The Silver Cross, the first prize for the May Meeting within the first four years of the competition, was won thrice by Perth players, viz., in 1836 by James Condie, and in 1838 and 1839 by Charles Robertson, and within the next twenty years by George Condie, Major Jelf Sharp and Sir Thomas Moncreiffe. The Silver Medal, the second prize of the May Meeting of the Royal and Ancient Club, was won in 1855 by James Condie, and in 1866 by T. D. M'Whannel.

The only Golf Club in England, whose members took part in these Medal competitions in St. Andrews in the first half of the last century was the Royal Blackheath, but the extension of the railway system led, soon after the middle of the century, to larger and more general contests.

PRESERVING THE AMENITY OF THE SOUTH INCH.

Some corporate bodies lay their plans for carrying out a scheme that is to affect a city and neighbourhood without due consideration of the interests and convenience of the When it became known citizens. that the Scottish Central Railway Company proposed to lay their line to the South Inch and to erect a large terminus there in 1848, indignation was aroused in Perth. Golfers and cricketers, quoiters and cow feeders, along with others who felt that the amenity of the Inch was likely to be destroyed. joined in making serious protest against such vandalism. When the Scottish Central Bill came before Parliament for approval, the Town Council sent a deputation to London to object to the railway encroaching upon the Inch, as interfering also with the shipping interests of the inhabitants. the Bill was to be considered in Committee, it was suggested that the deputation should carry with them to Westminster a small picture of the Inch that had been painted by the well-known artist, Macneill M'Leay, for the purpose of impressing the members of Committee with the charm of the public park which was threatened.

SUCCESSFUL.

Supported in his defence of the Inch by M'Leay's painting, learned counsel succeeded in getting the desired alteration made upon the Bill, and the Inch was preserved in all its pastoral loveliness, and the General Station put to the west.

The expense, however, entailed in attaining this object was very considerable, but a public-spirited citizen, Mr Murray Patton, Sheriff Clerk of Perthshire, came privately to the rescue and paid the bill.

The Picture which had played so important a part in the case for the town, eventually came into Mr Patton's possession in an amusing way. A few of those who knew of his benefaction thought it would be a graceful act to present him with the picture as a small recognition of his kindness. A hint of their intention reached the Sheriff Clerk, and, whilst they were haggling with Mr P. R. Drummond about the price of it, he himself purchased it at the figure Drummond put upon it, viz., £20, an evidence that his modesty was equal to his generosity.

A coloured lithograph of the picture was published by Drummond, and was readily subscribed for, and

copies can still be seen on the walls of residences of art-loving citizens in Perth.

Edinburgh and Northern Railway Company was more successful in putting down a station on the links of St. Andrews than the Scottish Central had been at Perth. In 1851 the connecting link from Leuchars to St. Andrews, running for a mile alongside the links, was laid, and the station erected only a little way from the teeing ground of the sixteenth hole. The wall enclosing the siding and the stationmaster's garden abuts on the links, and the sixteenth hole is known as "The Corner o' the Dyke." garden with its potato patch and turnips frequently makes an happy hunting ground for the College bejeants and the Madras boys as well as for the gardener.

Nevertheless the railway was a boon to St. Andrews, and made the ancient University City, with its added attractions, accessible from

all parts of the compass.

Nowadays motor cars roll up daily in scores with golfing enthusiasts eager to play on the famous old and new links of St. Andrews-"The Grey City by the Sea."

St. Andrews Tournaments.

St. Andrews railway line was opened in 1851, and six years later the R. & A. Club inaugurated on the Old Links the Golf Tournament between players from outside Clubs.

In April, 1857, on the initiative of the Bruntsfield Club a circular was sent out from St. Andrews inviting recognised clubs to send two of their best players to take part in a competition to be held there, and it was afterwards intimated that all Clubs were entitled to compete on condition of contributing towards the expense of the meeting the sum of £4 each.

competition was dignified with the name of Tournament, because it was to be carried on by the players either in singles or foursomes, after the fashion of the jousts of the Knights of old. Eleven clubs entered, and we have the report of the Hon. Secretary of the Blackheath Club as to the various representatives, their matches, and the ultimate issue:- "Great Golf Tournament, competed for at St. Andrews. on the 29th, 30th, and 31st July, 1857, and won by the Blackheath Golf Club, represented by George Glennie, Esq. of Blackheath, and Captain J. C. Stewart of the 72nd Highlanders.

"Clubs competing and names of representatives:--

- 1. Royal Blackheath Club—Mr Glennie and Captain Stewart.
- 2. Edinburgh Burgess Club—Messrs John Martin and J. W. William-
- 3. Royal and Ancient St. Andrews Golf Club—Captain Dougal and Mr D. C. Thomson.

- 4. Edinburgh Bruntsfield Golf Club
 —Messrs Robert Clark and
 John Dunn.
- Musselburgh Golf Club—Messrs
 R. Chambers and Wm. Marjoribanks.
- 6. Montrose Royal Albert Golf Club
 —Messrs Cowie and D. C.
 Thomson.
- Innerleven Golf Club—Messrs David Wallace and David Marshall,
- 8. Perth Royal Golf Club Sir Thomas Moncreiffe and Mr Jas. Condie.
- 9. North Berwick Golf Club—Messrs Robert Hay and Ord G. Campbell.
- 10. Prestwick Golf Club—Messrs J. O. Fairlie and W. J. Hamilton.
- 11. Dirleton Castle Golf Club— Messrs Carse and Bertram."

LEADING GOLFERS OF THE TIME.

It is stated elsewhere that Mr George Condie and Major Boothby represented the Panmure Golf Club, but there is no mention of this in the Blackheath report. If such were the case, it will be seen at a glance that the list included all the leading golfers of the time, the very cream of the game. Puir Auld Scotland! The result was a win for the only English club represented in the match! But it is some comfort to reflect that the Blackheath representatives were both front-rank Scottish golfers, who were as familiar with St. Andrews Links as they could have been with Blackheath.

The list of the R. & A. Gold Medal winners for the six years prior to the Tournament is a significant one. The names, in order, are Robert Hay, John C. Stewart, W. A. Hamilton, George Glennie, Captain Maitland Dougal, and J. Ogilvie Fairlie.

The Royal Perth Society was unfortunate in being pitted in the first draw against the eventual winners, and, before getting the weight of the greens, they were ousted by no less than eight holes. The Blackheath pair were a redoubtable combination. Mr George Glennie in 1835 created an amateur record by returning a card of 88 strokes, and a familiar photogravure shows him holing out

at the last hole on the occasion, surrounded by an admiring throng of leading players. His score remained the medal record for no less than twenty-nine years, until in 1884. when Mr Horace Hutchinson reduced it by a single stroke. So proud was the Blackheath Club of the many honours Mr Glennie had won that, in 1881, they instituted presented to the Royal & and Ancient Club the "George Glennie" Medal, to be awarded for the best aggregate score at the Spring and Autumn meetings.

His partner, Captain J. C. Stewart, was also an R. & A. Medallist, who two years before Mr Glennie's great achievement, had lowered the amateur record to 90 strokes. So highly was he esteemed in St. Andrews that when his regiment was ordered to India, deep regret was expressed in the Union Parlour that the War Office should have committed the blunder of sending such an excellent golfer so far from the Mecca of Golf.

PRECURSOR OF OPEN
AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP.

The progress of these two players throughout the Tournament was a remarkable one. After disposing of the Perth representatives, they beat the Innerleven couple by no less than a dozen of holes, then, by half that number, they knocked out the Edinburgh Bruntsfield pair, and, in the final overcame the Royal & Ancient players on their own graen, by the handsome margin of seven holes!

The Tournament had excited so much interest, that another amateur contest was held the following year. This time it might have been accounted the precursor of the Open Amateur Championship since instituted. Many of those who had played in the previous tournament took part. We may take it that most of the amateur talent of the day assembled at St. Andrews. After three days' match play, the finalists proved to be Mr David Wallace, Innerleven, and Mr Robert Chambers, son of the founder of "Chambers's Journal," Bruntsfield The issue of the contest was Club.

an illustration of the painful or otherwise uncertainties of the game. Wallace stood four holes up with five to go, but with a run of luck and a dauntless spirit, Chambers won the five holes and the match.

On his return to Edinburgh he was hailed with a demonstration as Amateur Champion of Great Britain, and the highest honour, in the shape of an invitation to a Club dinner, was conferred upon him.

The Laureate of the Club composed an ode in celebration of his victory. The following lines contain the principal reference to the guest of the evening—

"The Bruntsfield come next in the raw, the raw,

Wi' the Burgess they've oft a fracas, fracas,

To add to their honours, most gallantly Chambers,

Frae St. Andrews a prize brocht awa, awa."

Perth Tournaments of 1864 and 1866.

By the enterprise of the Perth Royal Golfing Society and the King James VI. Club, a tournament for professional and amateur players was arranged to be played on the North Inch, Perth, on 12th and 13th April, 1864.

On the first day the competition was open to both classes, and on the second it was confined to amateurs. Three money prizes were given in both cases, the same amount in each section, viz., £10, £5 and £3.

Fourteen couples entered in the open competition, and they included the highest class golfing talent of that time—Tom Morris, Prestwick; G. D. Brown, St. Andrews; Willie and Andrew Strath, St. Andrews; Willie and Davie Park, Musselburgh; Willie Dow, Musselburgh; George Morris, Carnoustie: Bob Andrews, Wattie M'Donald and Neil Macpherson (otherwise known as "The Herd Laddie"), Perth. Perth course is accounted too easy for a really trying test of golf, but it has a way, and more so then than now, of punishing those who regarded its hazards with any feeling of contempt. After the first two rounds, G. D. Brown, the notable St. Andrews clubmaker, to whom Tom Morris afterwards succeeded, with scores of 54 and 53, topped the list with five strokes to the good against Bob Andrews, who stood second at that stage. Brown had only to return the moderate card of 60 in his third round in order to secure the first honours of the field, but the Peninsula holes baffled him, and with a 68, he had to content himself with the fifth place on the list.

The steadier play and even temper of Tom Morris brought him in an equal first with Willie Park, Musselburgh. These two players were often matched against one another, and on this occasion, in the deciding match of two rounds, Morris had much the better of his opponent, who also found trouble among the Peninsula holes, and dropped in his second round no less than ten strokes, with a very moderate card of 67.

The order of merit in the Open Competition was as follows:—

	1st.	2nd.	3rd.
	Rd.	Rd.	Rd. Tl.
Morris, Prestwick	57	57	54 - 168
W. Park, Musselburgh .	55	56	57-168
Andrews, Perth	54	58	58-170
D. Park, Musselburgh .	57	62	51 170
G. D. Brown, St.			
Andrews	54	53	68 - 175
A. Strath, St. Andrews	58	57	62 - 177
Major Boothby, Perth .	57	60	62 - 179
Mr Marshall, Leven	60	61	63-184
Mr Alex. Imrie, Perth .	64	57	63-184
Mr Chas Hunter			

Prestwick 57 62 65—184 Mr Wm. Stewart, Perth 58 65 63—186 W. Strath, St. Andrews 60 62 65—187

The tie between Bob Andrews and Davie Park was played off the following afternoon in two rounds and resulted in a win for Andrews by no less than twelve strokes, his score consisting of two 53's, although Park had, on the previous day, returned the lowest score for one round, namely, 51.

The success of Andrews was a very popular one as showing how high a place a local man could take among the strongest Scottish players of the time.

Although several of the members of the Royal Golfing Society ventured into the open competition, only them, one of Major Boothby. handed in a card below 190 strokes. but it was a credit to the Club that he held the highest place among the amateurs.

AMATEURS IN COMPETITION.

The following day in the competition confined to amateurs. Major Boothby increased his reputation and showed himself to be the strongest amateur player of the tournament.

The prizes on the occasion were of the same value as in the Open Competition—£10, £5, and £3.

The weather again favoured the competitors, and at the close it was found that Major Boothby had reduced his previous day's score by a couple of strokes and stood primus inter pares.

The result was as	follo	777C *.			
The result was as			3rd.		
	Rd.		Rd. Tl.		
Major Boothby, Perth			63—177		
Mr C. Hunter, Prest-					
wick	59	57	63—179		
Mr Alex. Imrie, Perth .	64	56	63-183		
Mr Wm. Stewart, Perth	62	59	64-185		
Mr Marshall, Leven	65	59	61 - 185		
Mr N. Carse, North					
Berwick	66	61	61 - 188		
Sir Thos. Moncreiffe,					
Bart	65	62	62 - 189		
Mr Geo. Condie, Perth	59	65	66190		
SgtMajor Chalmers					
Perth	66	61	65 - 192		
Captain Pratt, R.E.,					
Perth	68	66	59 - 193		
Mr R. M'Gregor, Perth	66	64	63 - 193		
Mr H. H. Greig, Perth	69	62	65 - 196		
Mr James Robertson,					
Perth	67	65	65 - 197		
Mr R. C. L. Blair, Perth	69	69	60 - 198		
Mr Burns Macdonald,					
Perth	64	67	68 - 199		
Mr Deane, St. Andrews	61	68	70—199		
The remainder of	the	we	ek was		

occupied in playing off the ties of

the Open Competition, playing foursomes, in which the leading exponents took part, and in a Club match of ten a-side between the King James VI. and Prestwick (or Avr St. Nicholas) Clubs, in which the former proved the victors. That such a match was possible showed in what numbers the visitors from other greens had assembled at Perth to try conclusions on the North Inch.

Two of the extra contests had an especial local interest, the chief of these being a single between Bob Andrews and Willie Dow, Mussel-The latter had failed to distinguish himself on the first day of the tournament, and being a player of no ordinary calibre, as his record demonstrated, he naturally was eager to engage a foeman worthy of his The match consisted of three rounds of the green, and at the end of the second the Perth hero stood in the comfortable position of being four holes to the good. golf as in other sports, a match is never lost until it is won, and Willie showed the stuff he was made of in the last round by not only clearing off the arrears but won the match by two and one to play.

This unexpected result stirred the minds of "The Rook's" many admirers. It would never have done to conclude a tournament on the North Inch with the defeat of its most notable and popular exponent. Accordingly, Dow was persuaded to remain over Sunday in order to give Andrews a chance of revenge on the Monday forenoon.

A large crowd assembled to witness the play, and the sympathy of the spectators was largely on the side of the Perth player. It is said the record of one of the historians of the game that "never before was 'The Rook' seen with such a stern countenance, and not a few spectators were heard to remark that Andrews seemed to have made up his mind to win or ignominiously fail." His first round was a proof that he excelled himself on the occasion, for his 49 was the record of the week's play, and although Dow made a great effort to repeat

his previous success, Andrews never relaxed and won a decisive victory by six holes and five to play.

YOUNG TOM MORRIS AND WILLIE GREIG.

There had been another match played during the tournament, which, while not a part of the official programme, attracted as much attention as any of the events of the week, and an account of which appears in the Badminton volume on "Golf," which was so ably edited by Mr Horace G. Hutchinson.

Tom Morris's eldest son, Tommy, then aged thirteen, had appeared at the tournament with the intention of trying his skill in the amateur sec-But after due consideration, the committee came to the conclusion that in view of his close connection with the game paternally, he was not eligible to play in the Amateur Competition. In this way he was deprived of the opportunity of showing his prowess. Some of the Perth players conceived the happy idea of matching him for a handsome prize against a Perth Academy boy. The Rector, Dr. Miller, had presented a medal for competition among the pupils, and it had been gained with a creditable score, by Willie Greig, a member of a famous athletic family, and of the same age as Tommy Morris.

It proved an exceedingly popular contest, and the largest gallery of the day followed these two youthful aspirants.

We cannot do better than give the "Badminton" description of the match, which is taken from one of the press reports of the time:—

"Perhaps the most interesting match of the day was between Master Morris, son of the redoubtable 'Tom,' and Master William Greig, of, as it seems, Perth's juvenile golfing celebrity. They are really wonderful players, for their years, both of them. We had no idea that very-young-Perth could produce so proficient a golfer as Master Greig. He played with astonishing neatness and precision, but the honours of the day were in store for

competitor. Master Morris his seems to have been both born and He has been cast in bred to golf. the very mould of a golfer and plays with all the steadiness and certainty in embryo of his father. juvenile competition was extremely interesting, and although the young Prestwicker gained the day, Perth had the very opposite of any reason to be ashamed of her youthful It was very funny to champion. see the boys followed by hundreds of deeply interested and anxious spectators."

It is interesting to note how correct was the estimate taken by the press-reporter, at that early stage, of the Prestwick boy who was afterwards to become the pride of St. Andrews. Willie Greig did well in China Golf in later years.

CARNOUSTIE.

It was little short of marvellous how soon the Prestwick lad, who had settled in St. Andrews, reached the forefront of professional golf. Only three years later in an open competition at Carnoustie, for the prize of then valuable pounds, he tied for first place with two players who were facile princeps on their respective greens, Bob Andrews and Willie Park. And when the triple tie was played off he headed the list, the indomitable Andrews having to be satisfied with second place. Such an occurrence as a youth of sixteen years heading a field of all the golfing talent of the time had never happened before, and it is unlikely ever to happen again.

PERTH-1866.

The success which attended the tournament of 1864, encouraged the Perth promoters to take steps in arranging a similar fixture at an early date. The amount of public attention it had received and the impetus it had given to the game in the Fair City and elsewhere were far beyond expectation, and no one could say that the financial responsibility involved was of an unreasonable amount.

The Perth Press of the time made pointed reference to the benefit and pleasure the citizens had derived from engaging in or watching golf throughout the week of the tournament. One of these paragraphs is as follows:—

"It attracted to our green the celebrities of the golfing world, and thus afforded local players an opportunity of trying their hand with crack drivers and putters. It also created a love among the general public, whose only outdoor exercise is a saunter along the Inch, for the ancient and noble game that kings and commoners alike delight in, and that brings all ranks into friendly rivalry."



Bob Andrews, or "The Rook," as he was called in the old golfing days of Perth, was the hero in many matches on the North Inch.

[From picture in the Royal Club premises.

Accordingly in 1866 another joint committee of the leading Perth clubs was appointed. The conditions were three rounds of twelve holes, and the awards were the same as on the previous occasion.

Extra labour was expended in putting the greens in order, but there was no thought in these early days of mowing or rolling the ground between the holes.

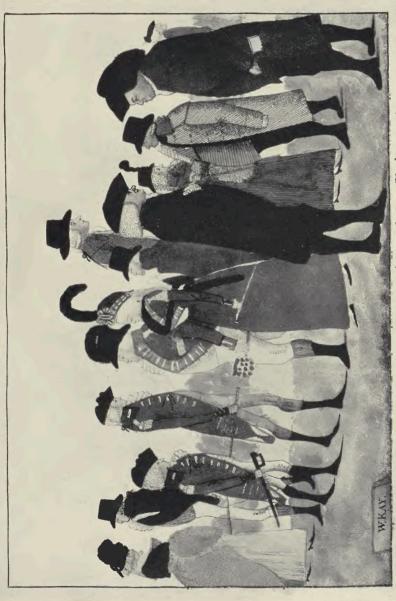
HOW TOM MORRIS DISQUALIFIED HIMSELF.

Tom Morris, who headed the list drawn with Bob in '64, was Andrews, and was finding in the local hero a foeman worthy of his But Tom was caught napping at the Pond hole. When he had played four strokes without getting down and Andrews had holed in four, in a thoughtless moment, unusual in a player so cautious and clear-headed. Tom knocked his ball to the teeing ground without holing out, thus infringing one of the rules of the game, and in doing, disqualified himself. Andrews magnanimously offered to overlook the transgression, which he had not the power to do, but Morris, while he went on with the game, at once ruled himself out of the com-At the end of the day it petition. was found the players stood in the following order:

romowing order.—		
1st.	2nd.	3rd.
Rd	Rd.	Rd. Tl.
Bob Andrews, Perth 51	51	57-159
And. Strath, Prestwick 50	57	54 - 161
W. Dow, Musselburgh . 54	54	53—161
Bob Kirk, St. Andrews . 56	53	57—166
J. G. M'Pherson, St.		
Andrews 51	55	60-166
Watty M'Donald, Perth . 58	55	55168
Tom Morris, sen., St.		
Andrews 54	60	57—171
Major Boothby, Perth 57	57	59 - 173
W. Doleman, Glasgow 55	59	60-174
Willie Park 57	58	62177
Tom Morris, jun., St.		
Andrews 61	62	54-177
W. Stewart, Perth 58	60	60-178
W. Carse, Prestwick 57	62	62-181
Thos. Thomson, Perth 58	62	64-184
John Allan, Prestwick 61	61	63—185
D. Marshall, Leven 67	63	57-187
Dr. Buist, Perth 61	68	62-191
H. H. Greig Perth 65	60	67—192
T. D. M'Whannel 69	67	57—193
George Condie, who ha	d a	conitted

George Condie, who had acquitted himself so well in the St. Andrews tournament, failed ignominiously on his own links and made no return, and in this omission he was joined by one who, however, made full amends for it the following day, Sergeant-Major Chalmers.

The meritorious victory of Bob Andrews was hailed with delight by



Conversation. And Evening Walk on the North Inch Perth 1794

The picture shows how the fashion in Perth has changed since the celebrated Kay painted it in 1794, when the evening habit of the upper classes, military, civil and ecclesiastical, was to promenade on the bank of the Tay, and allow the golfers to ply their craft on the centre of the Inch.







Rev. Charles Robertson ("Goufin' Charlie").

A U.P. probationer, passionately fond of golf, who became farmer of Buttergask. Although a member and medallist of the Royal Society, he founded in 1858 another association, and gave it its royal and appropriate title, "King James VI Golf Club."

.he crowd of onlookers from the city and county, who felt a personal pride that the local "hero of a hundred fights" had come out at the top of the most notable representatives of the day.

AMATEURS COMPETE.

The next day twenty-six players. all of acknowledged merit, including representatives from the east and west of Scotland, competed in the amateur section, when a member of the King James VI. Club, which supplied nearly one half of the entrants, handed in the winning card, and the feat was all the more remarkable because of his being a left-handed player. He was closely pressed by the St. Andrews student. J. Gordon M'Pherson, who had taken highest place among the amateurs the previous day.

The order of merit was as follows:—

Sergeant-Major Chalmers, Perth	170
J. Gordon M'Pherson, St.	
Andrews	172
William Stewart, Perth	173
D. Marshall, Leven	174
W. Doleman, Glasgow	174
T. Thomson, Perth	179
George Condie, Perth	181
W. Carse, Prestwick	
Jas. Moir, Perth	
J. Robertson, Perth	
T. Hood, Musselburgh	
H. H. Greig, Perth	
Dr. Buist, Perth	
Major Boothby, Perth	
A. Burns Macdonald, Perth	195
T. D. M'Whannel, Perth	195
J. A. Imrie, Perth	

It will be seen that Mr George Condie took the highest place among the Royal Society's representatives, but it is very evident he did not do himself justice, for he exceeded the winning card by eleven strokes, a pretty wide margin, when the match was on his home links. few years before, he had asserted his superiority in a strong array of amateur golfers in St. Andrews, beating Mr Hay (afterwards Sir Robert Hay) in the final by a handful of holes, and carrying home the Challenge Cup. But that match was by holes, and as Tom Morris used to say, the only way to test the qualities of a golfer is to put a card at his back.

George Condie acquitted himself better the same afternoon in a hole and hole foursome with Andrews as partner against Major Boothby and Tom Morris. In two rounds the Perth players would seem to have achieved the impossible in winning by no less than eleven holes.

GOLF'S UNCERTAINTIES.

There was a delightful illustration of the glorious uncertainty of golf found in a big foursome the next day, in which Morris took Gordon M'Pherson as his partner against the two leaders in the professional competition, Bob Andrews and Andrew Strath. The match proved a very close one, any advantage being with Morris and his partner. who at the last hole were in the comfortable position of being dormie On the putting green Morris one play Was called to one two, but did not get inside his opponents' ball, and M'Pherson, in his effort to hole out, overran the hole, leaving Morris a downhill putt on a green that had become worn by the play in the tournament. Playing the odd Morris failed to find the disc, and when the like went down the game was all square. There was clearly something wrong somewhere, when players of such outstanding merit should have allowed so secure a victory to slip through their fin-It is on record that Morris and his partner though they often afterwards discussed the incident. never arrived at a satisfactory decision as to which of them had heen at fault.

The Rev. Dr. J. G. M'Pherson afterwards became the popular and respected parish minister of Ruthven, near Meigle, Perthshire, and a founder of Alyth Golf Club.

In addition to prominent playing members of King James VI. Club noted elsewhere, the following deserve "honourable mention," viz., Geo. Kyd, T. D. Miller, A. Jamieson, D. Valentine, A. S. Leitch, Jas. Paterson, J. C. Dow, D. M. Mackay, A. T. Mackay, R. Halley, Walter Anderson, W. Caw, and others of

more recent date worthily upholding the name and playing powers of the then happy band of young Perth players, who, in 1858, formed a new body and took the old and Royal title of James VI., so much associated with Perth in the days of the Scottish reign of that monarch.

ROYAL CLUB MATCHES.

Quite a new departure in the history of the Royal Perth Society took place in 1870.

In February of that year it is stated in a minute of the Council that Col. Frank Sandeman appeared as a semi-official deputation from the Dalhousie Golf Club, Carnoustie, to state that it was the intention of that club shortly to challenge a limited number of members of the Royal Perth Golfing Society to a home and home match, which proposal the Council was disposed favourably to entertain. In April, the arrangements for the match had advanced so far that the date had been fixed and also the team of twelve players that was to represent the society, and it was agreed that the Hon. Secretary should forward the list of names to the Dalhousie Club with the request that they would send their list in return.

On the forenoon of Saturday, the 23rd April, the rival teams met on the North Inch in the first of a long series of annual matches.

The record states that the greens could hardly have been in better condition, but unfortunately a high wind prevailed. The names recall the leading players of both clubs at that date.

Perth.	Dalhousie.
Holes.	Holes.
Mr M'Whannel 8	Mr Geo. Gilroy, jn
Rev. D. Millar 9	Mr T. Collier
Mr Skeete 4	Mr Robert Gilroy -
Mr R. H. Mon-	
crieff	Mr J. Cox 2
Mr H. V. Hunter -	Mr D. Laing 2
Mr Burns Mac-	
donald	Mr A. Johnstone
Mr R. C. L. Blair 2	Mr Cunningham
Sir Thomas Mon-	
creiffe	Mr W. W. Renny -
Dr. Buist 3	Mr J. C. Lindsay
Major Boothby 4	Mr W. C. Thomson -
Mr C. W. Kerr 4	Mr J. Dove
Sir Alex. Macken-	
zie	Mr J. Fullarton . 3
_	_
24	7

At the close of the match the visitors were entertained to lunch in the Royal George Hotel.

The return match was played at Carnoustie on the 19th October following. The order of starting was fixed by ballot, and the teams of eleven players and the results were as under.

Perth Royal.	Dalhousie.
Dr. Thomson 0 Mr J	C. Lindsay 2
Captain Hill 0 Mr T	hos. Collier . 5
Mr Cuncliffe 0 Mr G	eo. Gilroy, jn. 3
Dr. Buist 0 Mr J	. J. Dalzell . 7
Mr Burns Mac-	
donald 0 Mr A	. C. Johnstone 6
Mr Lyall 0 Mr R	lobt. Gilroy . 10
Mr Jameson 2 Mr I	O. C. C. Laing 0
Sir Thos. Mon-	
creiffe 4 Mr V	V. J. Renny 0
Mr Reid 0 Mr V	V. Moir 12
Sir Alex. Macken-	
zie 0 Mr (Geo. M. Cox 13
Captain Sandeman 0 Mr J	. C. Cox 6
_	
6	69

In spite of heavy showers and a strong wind, the report stated that "the game was throughout of the most enjoyable kind, and the treatment of the Dalhousie Club most handsome." The Perth team was undoubtedly weakened by the unavoidable absence of Major Boothby, the Rev. D. Millar, and Messrs M'Whannel and Blair.

SECOND VISIT TO NORTH INCH.

In April of the following year the Dalhousie Club again visited the North Inch. While that Club's team was almost identical to that in the previous match, that of the Royal Society included a number of new names. The earlier portion of the team had a decided advantage over their seaside opponents, but the three last players dropped no less than twenty-five holes among them and as a consequence, there was a majority in favour of the Dalhousie Club of seventeen holes.

The discredit of this unlooked for defeat of the Royal Club was rubbed in by a paragraph which appeared in one of the Perth papers to this effect:—

"It is time our Perth golfers were looking to their laurels. Both of our clubs were defeated on Saturday last—the Royal on its own green by 17 holes, and the King James VI. club on the St. Andrews green, by 54 holes. It will take some trouble to wipe out these hostile scores."

The particulars of the match are as follows:—

ttb Lollows.						
Perth.			Dall	nousie).	
Mr Blair	5	Mr	Renn	у		0
Dr. Buist	1	Mr	G. G	ilroy		0
Mr Jameson, jun !	2	Mr	D. C.	C. La	aing	0
Mr Hill	0	Mr	W.R.	Lain	g	2
Mr Hunter	0	Mr	W. C.	Thon	ison	5
Mr Burns Mac-		Mr	A.	C. Je	ohn-	
donald	2	sto	ne			0
Mr Cuncliffe	4	Mr	Geo.	Cox		0
Mr R. H. Moncrieff	1	Mr	J. J.	Dalz	ell .	0
Mr C. W. Kerr	0	Mr	T. C	ollier		0
Mr James Miller .	0	Mr	J. C.	. Cox		7
Mr J. C. Moncrieff	0	Mr	Robt	. Gili	roy :	13
Lord Chas. Kerr .	0	Mr	J. C.	Line	dsay	5
_	-					
1	5					32

No return match was played that year, but on March, 1872, a Royal Club team of seven players met an equal number of the Dalhousie Club at Carnoustie, and the report states that "Notwithstanding the late rain and snowfalls, the green was in first-rate conditions — the Perth players expressing themselves as highly satisfied with it. The game consisted of two rounds of the links -20 holes. Better play than that of several of the players on both sides is seldom witnessed at Carnoustie. It will be noticed that more than one of the Dalhousie's best players were tied with their opponents."

Perth.	Dalhousie.
R. C. L. Blair 0 W.	. C. Thomson 0
Burns Macdonald . 0 A.	C. Johnstone 0
R. H. Moncrieff . 0 J.	J. Dalzell 5
Horace Skeete 0 Th	omas Cellier . 4
A. H. Ballingal 0 W	illiam Brand . 10
M. Jameson, jun 3 J.	K. Prain 0
Dr. Buist 0 J.	C. Lindsay 8
3	2.7

A month after Dalhousie visited Perth with a team of ten players, and, although the margin was by no means so considerable as on the previous occasion, the Perth club had still to acknowledge defeat. The report states that the green was in good condition and the players on both sides displayed fine play.

Royal Perth.		Dalhousie.
		Mr Prain 1
Dr. Buist	0	Mr Lindsay 10
Mr Burns Mac-		
donald	8	Mr Johnstone 0
Mr A. H. Ballingal	0	Mr Moir 1
Mr H. V. Hunter	0	Mr Cunningham . 4
Mr R. C. L. Blair	6	Mr Thomson 0
Sir Thos. Mon-		
creiffe	0	Mr W. J. Renny 4
		Mr Brand 0
Mr M. Jameson, jn.	0	Mr D. C. C. Laing 1
Mr R. H. Moncrieff	5	Mr Collier 0
	_	-
(1)	19	21

In the spring of next year, 1873, at Carnoustie, the Royal Perth were again worsted in the fight, only two of their members, Messrs Skeete and R. H. Moncrieff, overcoming their opponents by two holes each, and one being punished by Mr J. K. Prain, the former University player, to the tune of ten holes. In the return match, played on the North Inch in April, 1873, the result took quite a different complexion, and the spirits of the Perth contingent went up with a bound. This is how the game was described in the public prints:-"The interest attaching to this home and home match, now played annually between these two first-class Clubs, is now greatly on present the increase. On the occasion opportunity afforded to admirers of the game of witnessing some splendid play, and among onlookers generally, we observed not a few veteran con-Want of success has noisseurs. been the fate of our local Club in the more recent contests with its junior rival, but on Wednesday last, this order of things was reversed. From the list of players, including as it does the names of some well-known and distinguished golfers on both sides, we imagine the Clubs respectively put forth their full strength, and we heartily congratulate our local players on their victory. These friendly matches go far to keep up and promote the interest of the game, to stir up feelings of emulation among the young and rising players—and to generate kindly feelings on the part of different Clubs towards each other."

following is the result of the match:—

Perth.	Dalhousie,
Sir Thomas Mon-	
creiffe 9	
Col. Jelf Sharp 6	W. Brand
R. C. L. Blair 6	A. C. Johnston
Melville Jameson	of the same of the same of
jun	Geo. Gilroy, jun. 11
H. V. Hunter 10	D. C. C. Laing
A. Burns Mac-	
donald 6	
R. H. Moncrieff . 1	R. Gilroy
Horace Skeete	J. C. Lindsay 3
38	14

ABERDEEN GOLF CLUB.

In 1873 another Club, the Aberdeen, entered the lists. At a meeting of Council, the Perth Secretary produced a letter from Charles Rose, Esq., Captain of the Aberdeen Golf Club, containing a challenge on the part of that club to play ten members of the Royal Perth, at Perth, which the Council authorised him to The match was arranged to be a home and home one, and on the North Inch "both clubs being strongly represented, a very exciting contest took place." Subjoined is the list of players and results:

the list or brayers	and results.
Perth.	Aberdeen.
Sir Thos. Mon-	Lord Granville
creiffe 6	Gordon 0
	Capt. Kellie
H. V. Hunter 4	M'Callum 0
Melville Jameson,	
jun 4	Thomson 0
Rev. D. Miller 7	Mr Chalmers 0
	Capt. Dingwall
Burns Macdonald . 0	Fordyce 4
Horace Skeete 2	Mr A. Rose 0
R. C. L. Blair 0	Dr. Moir 1
	Mr J. Dingwall
R. H. Moncrieff 3	Fordyce · 0

26	5

It was at this time that the Royal Society had come to realise the mistake of playing a team beyond the extent of its strength. Possibly remembering recent Dalhousie matches. After discussion the following resolution was adopted:-"The Council cannot but regret the want of success hitherto attending the Royal Perth Golfing Society in their matches, which is attributable entirely to playing with a greater number of men than the Club can creditably turn out, and resolve in future that in all matches against other clubs, players of known practice and ability only shall be selected, even should it be necessary in so doing to limit their number." It was a shrewd commonsense decision on the part of the Council, and the fruits of it were seen in the return match played in the autumn of the same year against the golfers of the Granite City.

AN ABERDEEN CLAIM.

Aberdeen not only claims to have had a Society of Golfers as far back as 1783, but also that golf was played on the links there more than a century before that. Is there not the record that the civic authorities granted permission to one James Dickson, to make and sell golf balls there in the year 1642? The name Dickson was as prominently associated with club and ball making in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries as those of Forgan and Morris in the nineteenth. The Duke of York, son of Charles I., who was sent into Scotland in 1681, in order to preside over the Scottish Parliament and secure his own succession to the Scottish throne, played a match for a large stake on Leith links, against two English members of his suite, having as his partner John Paterson, a noted golfing cobbler, and as his caddie, Andrew Dickson, who afterwards founded a club-making business that became so famous as to be celebrated in song-Of finest ash Castalia's shaft was made, Pond'rous with lead, and fenced with horn the head:

(The work of Dickson, who in Letha dwells, And in the art of making clubs excels).

In 1850, a notable member of the Aberdeen club, Mr Duthie, of the firm of Footdee shippers and shipbuilders, received by one of their frigates, a present from the Far East of a handsome ewer and basin moulded in guttapercha, and being both an expert engineer and golfer, fashioned a golf ball mould and converted the domestic utensils into the first guttas seen upon the northern links of Aberdeen sands.

It was therefore on the old and historic links, for the club had not yet acquired the ground at Balgownie, that the Royal Perth met their opponents. The club had

arranged a 2-Days' Tournament so that there were a larger number of players than usual present, among whom were representatives from St. Andrews, Edinburgh and Musselburgh.

The inter-club match was played in excellent weather on Thursday, 24th September, in two rounds of fifteen holes. Though in the first round there was a small majority in favour of the home club, the second round left the Royal Perth with a substantial lead. Appended are the results of the match:—

Perth.	Aberdeen.	
1st 2n	d	1st 2nd
Rd. R	d	Rd. Rd
Burns Mac-	Capt. A. Fo	or-
donald	- dyce	. 2 1
Melville	Cornelius	
Jameson, jun. 1	- Thomson	$\dots - 2$
R. H. Mon-	W. D. Fordy	ce,
crieff	6 M.P	. 6 0
John Bett	3 Oswald Moir	. 2 -
Colonel Jelf	Captain M'Ca	al-
Sharp 4	3 lum	– –
R. C. L. Blair -	3 Dr. Moir	. 4 –
Wm. Brand 5	3 George Will	xie – –
H. V. Hunter -	7 P. Chalmers	2 -
J. C. Fowlie	- Chas. Anders	on 1 5
10 2	5	17 8

On the second day a competitior took place for Prince Leopold's Cup and other trophies. The first place was gained by Mr Charles Anderson, Fettykil, at 147 strokes, Dr. Moir, St. Andrews, being second (160 strokes), and Mr G. Wilkie, Aberdeen, tied with Captain Fordyce for third place with 164 strokes.

The Meeting concluded with a match for £25 between Tommy Morris and Davie Strath. These young players were at the height of their fame. The latter had served for a time as bank-clerk under Mr Stuart Grace, St. Andrews. He belonged to a golfing family, and the lure of the links drew him into the professional ranks, so he left the service of the Royal Bank to make his mark in Scottish golf.

The two youths were the Damon and Phintias of the golfing world, the closest of friends and yet the keenest of rivals. The match, which attracted a large gallery, went in favour of young Tommy,

who was at the time Open Champion. Their respective scores were:—Morris, 65 and 66—total, 131; Strath, 69 and 67—total, 136.

In April, 1877, the Aberdeen Club brought seven players to try issues on the North Inch, but these fared little better than the Dalhousie's representatives had done. Two of their team won their matches by four and two holes respectively, Mr Burns Macdonald losing his match with Mr Cornelius Thomson. Messrs M. Jameson and Harry V. Hunter added six and seven holes as their quota, and Mr R. H. Moncrieff had a creditable win by two holes against Mr Charles Anderson. Perth scored another success by 13 holes.

A NOTABLE PERTH WIN.

In the return match played in October, as the opening event in a two-days' meeting on Aberdeen links, Mr Charles Anderson elected to play as member of the Royal Society, and he contributed no less than 16 holes out of 36, playing against Mr Charles Smith. The total for Perth was 73 holes, which gave the Fair City an easy win by 63 holes. Others who made substantial additions on the winning side were Mr W. E. Brand, 10 holes; Mr R. H. Moncrieff, 13 holes, and Mr J. F. Pullar, 11 holes. The Leopold Cup was competed for by the members of the Aberdeen Club the same day, the scores of those engaged in the inter-club match being held as valid for the Cup, and at the close of the competition it was found that Mr Charles Anderson had handed in the winning card with 84 and 87, or 171 for the two rounds. Mr Cornelius Thomson took second place with 173 strokes.

PERTH PLAYER'S WIN.

The following day the Gold Medal, regarded as the "blue ribbon" of the Club, and Miss Fordyce's Gold Cross (under handicap), were competed for, when Mr William Brand, another of the Royal Perth representatives, who was a member of both Clubs, proved to be the winner of the scratch trophy with a card of 89 and 95, and Mr Charles Smith gained the handicap prize with 191, less 6—185.

DALHOUSIE.

The annual matches against the famous Tayside Club continued for upwards of a score of years, and, as the teams for the greater part of the time consisted of the same players, it will only be necessary to tabulate the general results.

In March, 1874, the play at Carnoustie was begun in a gale and finished in a downpour of rain, the Clubs playing nine a-side in a round Two of the Royal of 18 holes. Perth, Messrs Blair and Hunter, made good against their opponents, Messrs Rennie and Cunningham, by 6 and 7 holes respectively, while Messrs Chas. Anderson and Burns Macdonald were each 8 holes back to James Brodie, Forfar Academy, W. C. Thomson, and M. Jameson, jun., dropped a similar number against G. Gilroy. issue left the Dalhousie Club with a lead of 14 holes.

In the return match, ten days later on the North Inch, the Royal Perth in two rounds of 12 holes wiped out the defeat, securing the victory by no fewer than 57 holes. Sir Alex. M. Mackenzie stood 9 up against Mr Dick, Mr Hunter 7 up against Mr Bell, Mr Blair 11 up against Mr Renny, Mr Burns Macdonald 5 up against Mr Thomson, and Mr Jameson 21 up against Mr Matheson, the largest margin, it may be believed, in any match officially recorded played on the North Inch.

The following year Mr Charles Anderson again fell before Mr Brodie at Carnoustie by 7 holes, and the others who lost their matches were Messrs M. Jameson, Burns Macdonald, R. H. Moncrieff, Hunter, and Sir A. M. Mackenzie, while Messrs Blair and Skeete put 7 and 5 holes to the credit of their side. Dalhousie had a majority on the occasion of 8 holes.

A month later, playing two rounds at Perth, with nine a-side, Messrs Collier, Brodie and Prain each finished 8 holes up on their opponents, Messrs M. Jameson, Blair, and Chas. Hill, while Messrs R. H. Moncrieff and Chas. Anderson readjusted the balance by 11 and 14

holes respectively against Messrs Rennie and Drimmie. The Dalhousie Club, however, eventually secured the honours by a narrow majority of 2 holes.

In March, 1875, the Royal Society visited Carnoustie with eleven players. The match was signalised by the crushing defeat of Mr Chas. Anderson by Mr James Cunningham of 10 holes; in the double round Mr Burns Macdonald lost by half that number to Mr G. M. Cox, and these two deficits made up the margin of difference between the total results at the close, which read:—Dalhousie, 29 holes; Royal Perth, 14 holes.

In the return match the following month, the Royal Society had a distinct advantage. Dalhousie showed a combined win in three out of ten matches of seven holes, five of which Mr T. Gilrov secured from Mr R. H. Moncrieff, while the Royal Society won seven matches, Mr Burns Macdonald taking seven holes against Mr Bell, Mr W. Brand nine against Mr Luke, Mr J. F. Pullar 10 against Mr Lyell, and Mr Jas. Jameson six against Mr Ogilvie; the total score for Perth being 43 holes. As showing the keenness and closeness of these contests, in seventeen matches between them there was only a difference of one hole, which at that date was to the credit of the Royal Society.

The match of March, 1876, was a memorable one, as being the first occasion on which the Dalhousie Club was defeated on its own green by the Royal Society. Much of the credit was due to Mr R. H. Moncrieff, who punished his opponent. Mr G. Gilroy, jun., to the extent of 10 holes, while Messrs Blair and Burns Macdonald came close behind him against Messrs Gilroy and Prain with 8 holes apiece. Perth had accordingly 26 holes against 16 for the Dalhousie side.

The remarks on the match are of a modest and general nature to the effect that—"The interest in this annual match is on the increase, and tends much to generate and keep up feelings of emulation and friendly rivalry between the members, as well as to stimulate young and rising players."

A similar result was reached in the return match in April, 1876, on the North Inch, when only two of the Dalhousie's team — Messrs Collier and Bell—had anything to record, winning their matches by 2 and 1 holes respectively, while the Royal Society accumulated 36 holes, Mr Burns Macdonald winning no less than 13 holes against such a steady and reliable player as Mr J. K. Prain.

There is no report preserved in the "Memorabilia Book" of the next year's match on Carnoustie links. This is hardly to be wondered at as out of eleven Perth players only two, Mr J. C. Cox and Mr H. Skeete, succeeded in defeating their opponents, Messrs D. Anderson and J. C. Lindsay, by 1 and 2 holes respectively.

Subjoined is the list of players and the results:—

Perth.	Dalhousie.
Holes.	Holes.
Burns Macdonald . C	R. Gilroy 3
M. Jameson, jr 0	T. Gilroy 0
	Irvine Drimmie . 5
	George Gilroy 8
C. H. Dundas 0	J. Kennedy 1
Jas. Jameson 0	J. L. Luke 5
	David Anderson . 0
	J. C. Lindsay 0
	W. G. Brand 2
R. W. R. Mac-	
kenzie 0	W. R. Wilson 4
A. H. Ballingal . 0	J. Sharp, ir 3
3	31
	02

In contrast with that result, and as showing the advantage a Club enjoys by playing on its own green, the Perth Royal finished the return match played in April, 1879, with almost as large a majority, showing also how much stronger both Clubs had become in point of golfing talent, sixteen members aside were played. The teams and the results were as follows:—

Perth.	Dalhousie.					
Holes.	Holes.					
W. C. Raleigh 1	T. G. Collier 0					
Jas. Jameson 9	J. L. Luke 0					
J. F. Pullar 0	David Anderson 2					
Burns Macdonald . 7	W. C. Thomson . 0					
R. H. Moncrieff . 0	Geo. Gilroy, jr 8					
Horace Skeete 3	J. C. Lindsay 0					
Wm. MacLeish 1						

A. H. Ballingal 1	J. Sharp, jr 0
M. Jameson, jr 3	Douglas Bell 0
R. W. R. Mac-	
kenzie 2	W. B. Wilson 0
R. C. L. Blair 0	Thos. Gilroy 5
C. H. Dundas 5	Jas. Kennedy 0
Chas. Anderson 6	Robert Gilroy 0
Wm. Brand 0	Irvine Drimmie 2
Jas. Bett 0	W. G. Brand 3
E. Dangerfield 7	W. Freeland 0
45	20
45	20

TWO HOLES IN 3000.

This concludes the list of matches between these two first-class Tayside Clubs. Up to that date they had fought out nineteen engagements, amounting to about 3,000 holes, and although on one or two occasions the events had been won by a considerable margin of holes, taken from first to last, the difference between the two Clubs was so trifling, amountto two holes in favour of Dalhousie, that the sea-side club would not grudge their North Inch rivals the credit that in the ultimate issue, the honours were "easy." It was a very creditable performance for the Royal Perth to hold its own over so many matches against so powerful a combination as the Dalhousie Club, several of whose members had been in the front rank of University golf at St. Andrews.

AN ABERDEEN TOURNAMENT.

In April, 1883, the Royal Club of Perth paid a visit to Aberdeen, where another tournament had been staged. The play on this occasion extended over three days. The first of these was occupied with a competition by the members of the Club for the Johnstone Cup and Silver Cross, the premier trophy going to Mr Bloxam, Edinburgh, a name very familiar in the lists of northern golf, and the Silver Cross, played under handicap, falling to Mr W. Leslie.

A match between the two leading professionals, Jamie Anderson, St. Andrews, and Bob Ferguson, Musselburgh, was the principal attraction on the second day.

Both of these players had won the open championship three successive times, Anderson in 1877, 1878 and 1879, and Ferguson in 1880, 1881 and 1882. They played in their time many matches against the leading talent of the day, and each had se-

cured some valuable scalps. Four times they were pitted against one another for a considerable money stake—at St. Andrews, Aberdeen. North Berwick and Musselburgh, and although Anderson did not appear in his best form on the Bonlinks. over these matches the honours were divided. At the end of the first round Ferguson led by six holes, with a round of 77 strokes, and in the second round he increased his lead by one more hole.

The third day of the tournament was taken up with the match against the Royal Society—ten men a-side. At the conclusion of the first round the Aberdeen Club led by ten holes, but in the afternoon a heavy shower altered the state of the course, and to this mischance the home players attributed the fact that the Perth Club turned the tables on them and not only cleared off the balance but brought their lead up to thirteen holes.

The result of the two rounds are as follows:—

Perth.	Aberdeen.					
1st 2nd	1st 2nd					
Rd. Rd.	Rd. Rd.					
M. Jameson, jr. 0 1	Captain Best . 1 0					
R. C. L. Blair . 4 1	John Craigie . 0 0					
C. H. Dundas . 0 0	R. Ogilvie 5 1					
A. Burns Mac-	C. Macdon-					
donald 0 0	ald 3 1					
D. R. Irvine 7 0	G. L. Jamieson 0 1					
P. J. C. Living-						
stone 0 8	Wm. Leslie 0 0					
Basil Brooke 0 6	J. R. Whyte . 2 0					
Sir Robert D.	Thomas Adam,					
Moncreiffe 0 3	jun 2 0					
	Capt. H.					
R. H. Moncrieff 0 6	Brooke 3 0					
R. W. R. Mac-						
kenzie 0 1	A. J. W. Storie 5 0					
11 26	21 3					
Total for Perth 37.	T't'l for Aberdeen 24					

FIRST INTER-CLUB MATCH.

The particulars of only one other match appear in the "Memorabilia Book." It was played on the 1st April, 1871, on the North Inch, against the Elie and Earlsferry Club. It is generally understood that the first inter-club match ever played took place on the Elie links between that Club and the King James VI., Perth, in the year

1860. It would seem that the challenge had been issued by the former Club from the game being played on their green, as well as from the fact that the Secretary of the Perth Club was instructed to make enquiries as to the locality of Elie, and how the Perth players were to reach it, so little was known at that time of golf in the Kingdom of Fife outside its ancient ecclesiastical centre. But Elie was soon after brought into the limelight through the excellent work of the Simpsons and Douglas Rolland. The Elie Club made quite a creditable appearance on the North Inch, playing as they did on a strange green, as exactly one half of their number won their matches, and against Royal opponents of experience, as the result shows:-

Perth.	Elie & Earlsferry.
Holes.	Holes.
Chas. Anderson . 6	T. Sime 0
Dr. Robt. Stirling 0	Gen. Morgan 2
Capt. P. J. C.	
Livingstone 0	Dr. Fowler 1
Jas. F. Pullar 5	R. Raimes 0
Mel. Jameson, jr. 1	
A. Burns Macdon-	
	J. Bowman 4
Major Dundas 0	C. Orr Paterson . 3
	Sir Ralpth An-
John Bett 0	struther 3
	D. Bowman 0
R. W. R. Mac-	
	Rev. H. Legge 2
H. Macduff Dun-	
can 3	Col. Outhwaite 0
J. Stewart 6	F. Scott Davidson 0
_	_
22	15

Among players of high amateur class are always reckoned those who have distinguished themselves as winners of one of the merit prizes of St. Andrews R. & A. Club. That Club was instituted in 1754, and since then till now, the links have been regarded as the finest field of contest for all who account themselves proficient in the game.

In a sense the vast seaside plain between St. Andrews and the Eden estuary holds the same position with respect to golf that the sacred Vale of Olympia in Elis did to the sports of Ancient Greece, except that on the former the contests are waged all day and every day throughout the year, Sundays excepted. In short, world-wide interest in the game of golf centres in St. Andrews.

R. & A. MEDALS.

In 1771 a Gold Medal was provided by the R. & A. Club for competition by the members, and was the only award offered up to 1836, when another Gold Medal, presented by King William IV. took premier place at the Autumn Meeting and the Club's medal became second prize.

In 1836 Col. J. Murray Belshes of Invermay, who was Captain of the Club, as well as a prominent member of Royal Perth Golfing Society, and who was mainly instrumental in securing the title of "Royal" for the St. Andrews Club, presented a silver cross for competition at the spring And, in 1846, a Silver meeting. Medal was presented to the R. & A. Club by the members of the Bombay Club in token of their appreciation of the courtesy paid to those of their Club who spent part of their furlough at St. Andrews. It is easy to gauge the merits of several of the Royal Perth players by scanning the early lists of the winners of these trophies.

Up to 1836, the Gold Medal was the blue ribbon of amateur golf both for England and Scotland and the name of Mr David Moncreiffe, yr. of Moncreiffe appears on the list as medalist in 1836, and two years later as Sir David Moncreiffe, Bart., he repeated his success. As a player, therefore, he was well worthy of the honour of being elected the first Captain of the Royal Perth Golfing Society.

In 1834 and 1835, R. Oliphant, yr. of Rossie, another Perth player, repeated Sir David's successes, and in 1837, the year the medal was relegated to second place, it was gained by Mr James Condie, one of the most enthusiastic members of the Royal Society, who won many laurels both on the South and North Inches.

In 1842 Mr Condie won the King William IV. Gold Medal at St. Andrews in 103 strokes.

In 1845, Mr Neil Fergusson Blair of Balthayock, the laureate of the Perth Society, proved to be the winner of the Silver Medal.

It is difficult to regard Captain R. T. Boothby as other than a Perth player in 1856 and the medal fell to him in that year.

In 1862, Mr T. D. M'Whannel

gained another victory for the Royal Society representatives.

In the earlier returns for the King William IV. medal, members of the Perth Society figure with equal prominence. In the year of its inauguration, 1837, Mr J. Stuart Oliphant bore off the palm. following year it fell to Captain J. Hope Grant, and four years later to Mr James Condie. In 1847 Mr N. J. Fergusson Blair took the first place and he was followed the succeeding year by Mr George Condie. In 1859 the coveted award fell to Mr T. D. M'Whannel, and he repeated his success two years later.

The list of winners of the first prize of the May Meeting, the Silver Cross, is headed in 1836 by Mr George Condie, while in '38 and '39. the redoubtable Goufin' Charlie, the Rev. Charles Robertson, placed two successes to his credit. In 1850. Mr George Condie was the hero of the May Meeting, and in 1853 Henry Jelf Sharp took the same honourable position. In 1858, Sir Thomas Moncreiffe, Bart., of Moncreiffe, took premier position, thus maintaining the high reputation of his father, Sir David Moncreiffe.

The second prize of the May Meeting, the Silver Medal, was gained in 1855 by Mr James Condie, in 1861 by Major R. T. Boothby, and 1866 by Mr T. D. M'Whannel. So that in these earlier years of the Royal Society's history the Perth Club had reason to be proud of those members who so often took part in these competitions among the amateur giantry of the time.

The sociologist holds that one of the principal incentives to matrimony is propinquity, and nearness to the links would seem to constitute one of the qualifications of a good golfer. It might be said that the Condie family were born on the links for a very few yards separated their home from the Perth course. The truth can be verified by other instances in Perth, St. Andrews, and elsewhere.

Mr James Condie had three sons and all of them were golfers and medal winners. He and his sons George, James, and William Condie, gained the Royal Perth medals no less than fifteen times between 1850 and 1860.

Theirs was the strongest family combination in Great Britain, and, if Mr Condie's sons-in-law, Major Boothby and Dr. Henry Macfarlane, and also Colonel Frank Sandeman, had been added to the team they would have matched any two other families of amateur rank playing golf at that time. Major Boothby was for long a striking and familiar figure on the Old Course of St. His name appears on the Andrews. list of winners of the R. & A. second Gold Medal in 1856 and afterwards in 1875. He took the Silver Cross in 1868 and again in 1876, both times at 92 strokes, and in 1861 at the May Meeting won the Silver Medal.

So long as Mr Condie lived Major Boothby paid frequent visits to Perth, where for his genial presence and high standing in the game he was always a welcome visitor to the scene of his introduction to the game.

It is interesting to record that Dr. John Anderson, of Kinnoull, who officiated in Blackfriars House at the marriage of Major Boothby to Miss Condie declared that with the single exception of Sir John Everett Millais and Miss Gray, they were the handsomest couple it had fallen to his lot to unite in matrimony.

Major Boothby was also a member of King James VI. Club, when that Club played over the North Inch, and took part in some of their matches and competitions.

He did the same for the Leven Club, many times lending the weight of his presence against the St. Andrews University team. His memory is still preserved there in the bunker known as "The Major," which had a fatal tendency to get in the way of his ball.

MR GEORGE GRAY.

Among those who were the fathers and founders of Perth Royal Golfing Society no one rendered more valuable service to the Club than did Mr George Gray, its first secretary.

For a period of no less than thirtyfour years he discharged the duties of his office with punctilious care and the minute books during his regime in the matter of precis and caligraphy are models of their kind. In his annual statement of the accounts his income and outlays are set down to the uttermost farthing. Although at times the finances of the Royal were at a low ebb, due to the amount expended on the annual dinner, he was able in 1836 to raise sufficient money to purchase the premises in Charlotte Street, and put them in proper order for the accommodation of the members, a transaction which entailed the expenditure of £220.

His services had received substantial recognition prior to the removal of the Club to the North Inch for, as is stated in a minute dated September, 1832, "Mr Patrick Murray Threipland, proposed that the Society should present a piece of plate to Mr Gray, the Secretary, as a mark of their appreciation of his able and zealous services in the management of the Society ever since its institution, which motion having been seconded by Mr John Richardson was unanimously agreed to; and the meeting remitted to the Council to carry this resolution into effect by fixing the amount of the individual subscriptions, determining what the piece of plate should be, purchasing it and presenting it to Mr Gray."

Mr Gray's choice fell on a handsome gold snuff-box, which was afterwards in daily use, and is now in the possession of his son, Mr Melville Gray of Bowerswell, Perth.

The modesty of the Secretary evidently prevented any report of the interesting proceedings being inserted in the minute-book.

Mr Gray, although not a golfer of the highest rank, was an enthusiast of the game, and his striking figure with his silver hair, and blue silk golfing jacket was a familiar one on the North Inch after his resignation of the office Secretary, which took place in 1858. It will be remembered that. at that date, the Club, with a view to augmenting its membership, and so increasing its revenue, resolved to inaugurate a reading-room, and devote one of the rooms to this purpose. The prospect of this addition to his labours as Secretary, was apparently not altogether to Mr Gray's liking, and he felt justified after his long term of active service, in resigning his office, and handing over the honourable post to Mr P. D. Brown, who, when he left the city the following year, vacated the office in favour of Mr Melville Jameson.

One or two of Mr Gray's golfing feats have been preserved in a record of the play of the Club's professional, whose sobriquet was "The Rook." It is there stated that the longest match in which Andrews ever engaged was played in 1860, in partnership with Mr George Gray, against Major Boothby and Tom Potts, a local player, who earned a modest livelihood in ball-making and carrying clubs. The match, consisted of two rounds of twelve holes for six days, making in all 144 holes, and it must have been a fairly close one for Mr Gray and his partner were victors only by the margin of seven holes.

On another occasion in the same partnership, "The Rook" in driving from the Peninsula to the Mound, sent his ball into one of the trees bordering the Inch, where it stuck in a cleft of a branch. Nothing daunted Mr Gray, though beyond the agile age, mounted the tree and with his iron knocked the ball down, and as "The Rook" laid his approach dead with his cleek, the hole was halved in four. Older members of the Club can still recall the venerable figure of Mr George Gray of Bowerswell.

DR. DAVID HALKET.

The name of Dr. David Halket appears on the lists of members and prize-winners from 1843 for a period of a quarter of a century. one of a large company of medical practitioners of his own time who found their recreation in the ancient game on the North Inch and were frequently to be seen there in their afternoon spare hours. We find among the list of members at that date such names as Drs. Boyter, Robertson. Pieredes, M'Farlane, Malcolm, and Fraser Thomson.

Dr. Halket has been described in

local story as "a very stout man," a man of imposing appearance, standing over six feet. A few of his clubs, one of them presented to the club by the late Lord Stormont, are to be found in the club's case of antiquities and they show that he used a long-shafted driver. One of these drivers is a left-handed one.

He resided for a time in the Watergate, which for long was the Harley Street of Perth. Some of the houses on the east side had gardens sloping down to the river, studded with apple and pear trees.

In the basement of Dr. Halket's house a cobbler had his little shop and kitchen which adjoined the cellar in which the doctor kept his supply of wine. He observed one day that one or two bottles had disappeared from one of the shelves, on inspecton, found that the cobbler had cleverly cut a small hole through the partition wall, and after abstracting the wine had closed it up. Dr. Halket made a concoction of sherry and jalap, a purgative of more than usual energy, and filling a bottle, placed it conveniently near the aperture in the wall. A night or two after, he was aroused by the intelligence that the cobbler seriously ill and found him suffering from acute internal pains. doot," he said, "Willium you've been takin' a taste o' my Spanish wine, it's a dangerous thing to tak' ower You'd better leav't muckle o'. alane." There were no further encroachments made on Halket's wine cellar.

As showing the humorous and kindly nature of the practitioners of Perth, it is told that as Dr. Halket was returning from attending a patient near Bridge of Earn, he passed, in his gig, near some cottages and heard a voice calling out in the darkness, "Are ye the little doctor? There's a puir woman here very ill." Halket knew that the enquiry referred to his brother-practitioner in Perth, Dr. David Scott, who, in point of stature, was in striking contrast to himself, so he replied, "I am not the little doctor, but I may do equally well," and went in and prescribed for the sick woman.



following day he met Scott and told him the story, saying, "You'd better send in your bill for the visit." Scott, with a heart out of all proportion to his body, replied "Oh! I don't think you would charge her and if your account were little, what would it be when it came down to me? I think we'd better not trouble the body." "Quite right," said Dr. Halket.

Scott was an inveterate punster. bright spirit. and a born Meeting Mr Archibald Reid. the Sheriff Clerk, one day, when hurrying as an accoucheur to attend a Mrs Campbell, he said, "I have no time to put off, the 'Campbells are coming'." Reid, who was equally ready-witted, replied, "Oh, if you're in such a terrible hurry, you should not waste your time delivering jokes by the way." So greatly did Scott endear himself to the people, that his portrait, presented to him by patients and other friends, and painted by Mr John M. Barclay, now adorns the wall of the staircase of the Perth Sandeman Library.

MR T. D. M'WHANNEL.

Mr M'Whannel is another instance of the value of approximation, in the development of golfing power. He first saw the light of day near the foot of Athole Street and within a stone's throw of the North Inch. His father was a principal clerk in the office of Mr Hope Moncrieff, writer, Blackfriars Street, Perth.

His youthful spirit, like many another, rebelled against the restraints of office life, which were more exacting then than now, and he forsook the stool for the sword and probably at the instigation of Major Boothby he obtained a commission in the Forfar and Kincardine Militia, of which the latter for a time was Major.

He was at the top of his game in the early '60's and in the Royal and Ancient lists about that time he took a front position. In 1859 he took the premier place in the Autumn Meeting and two years later repeated his victory. In 1862 he was second to Captain Maitland Dougal, who was likewise in the zenith of his powers about the same date.

Mr M'Whannel returned his best card over the Old Course at the May Meeting in 1866, but Mr W. C. Thomson, a Tayside hero, handed in the winning card of 92 strokes, or three better than Mr M'Whannel

MAJOR CHALMERS.

Sergt.-Major Peter Chalmers, who took first place in the amateur section of Perth Tournament, 1866, did not start golf until he had reached his thirty-second year, in 1858, and yet within eight years, he was able to defeat the best players both of the East and West of Scotland. He was a native of Blairgowrie, and in his boyhood was apprenticed in the office of an old Dundee newspaper.

Finding that his taste inclined more to the sword than the pen, he left the printing office, and enlisted in the Scots Guards. He was descended on his mother's side from a family of Ramsays who were for several generations graziers in Glenbeg, to the north of the Spittal of Glenshee, and who claimed to be a family. branch of the Bamff Chalmers was wont to say that it was by hearing from his mother's relatives of the feats of their neighbour M'Comie Mor of Finegand, and of his prowess with. the broadsword, that he first conceived the idea of becoming like him. an expert swordsman.

Being a man of fine physique, with a natural turn for athletics, he soon made his presence felt at the Military Tournaments of the time, and he perfected the system of sword and bayonet practice that still is followed in the British Army.

The Scots Guards regiment was included in the Brigade of Guards that went to the Crimea, in the spring of 1854. On its arrival at Constantinople, and in celebration of Queen Victoria's birthday, a Military Tournament of athletic sports was held, and Chalmers gained the honours in the wrestling competition, Cumberland style. After weary months of waiting, in which the scourge of cholera claimed many the Allied Armies were victims. transported to the Crimea with the object of laying siege to Sebastopol. The first engagement in which the Guards took part was on the River Alma, and it is stated that Chalmers was the first of the British Division to be wounded by a bullet in the left lung. He was taken by ship to the hospital at Scutari, made famous by the work of Florence Nightingale, where he remained for three months and was then invalided home.

ON FOOT TO CALAIS.

Fearing that the storms of winter in the Bay of Biscay might re-open his wound, now partially healed, he was permitted to find his way on foot from Marseilles to Calais, and travelling by easy stages, he reached London towards the end of January, and found a lodging with a friend Tyrie, also a native of Blairgowrie. The soles of his boots were worn After a week or two with through his parents in Blairgowrie he was invited by Lord Charles Kerr to fill the post of Sergeant-Major in the Perthshire Militia, and accepting the offer, he retired from the Guards with a pension. For twelve years he was stationed in Perth, and besides his military duties he acted for a year or two as gymnastic master at Glenalmond College and Perth During this period he Academy. took his first lesson in golf, and soon became recognised as a player. His enthusiasm commended him to the newly-formed King James VI. Club, and he was elected to the office of Hon. Secretary. It was mainly at his instigation that the Tournaments of '64 and '66 were held and he gave valuable service in the arrangements, and did much in getting the course extended from ten to twelve holes, personally superintending the laying out of the putting greens.

In 1867, Chalmers was appointed as Captain and Adjutant of the Clackmannan Rifle Volunteers. A few years later he was appointed to a similar post in Stirling, where he completed his long term of service, retiring on half-pay, with the honorary rank of Major. Taking up his residence in Blairgowrie, he was within easy reach of many

golfing centres. He had elected a member of the Royal and Ancient in 1869, most probably on the nomination of Major Boothby, and having gained medals both at Perth and Stirling, he began to aspire to honours on the historic links of St. Andrews. In 1887 he took second place in the first competition for the Jubilee Vase, and the following year, showing the steadiness of his form, he stood only one place lower. Chalmers was not satisfied till he had laid out a home course for himself and neighbours and the nine hole course at Rosemount, recently extended to the full stretch, is an attractive monument to his constructive skill, and devotion There he added to his to the game. already extensive acquisition of trophies, and conferred a benefit on the district of which Blairgowrie* is now reaping the harvest.

His long service and his devotion to his military and other duties, won him the esteem of all classes from his Sovereign downwards, and on the occasion of King Edward's passing through Blairgowrie from Balmoral to open the Military School at Dunblane, Major Chalmers had the honour to receive a Royal Command to an audience with His Majesty.

MR CHARLES ANDERSON OF FETTYKIL.

Mr Anderson was a native of Newburgh, Fife, and except for a few years spent in Edinburgh in the profession of the law, which he soon discarded as irksome and enslaving. he remained faithful to his paternal county. His father was a respected banker in the little Tayside town. Whilst serving his legal apprenticeship, he commenced his life-long practice of annexing medals and trophies, by joining the Forth Swimming Club, which met in the early mornings and held occasional contests at the Old Chain Pier at Trinity, Edinburgh.

Returning to Fife, he entered into partnership with Mr Tullis in the Fettykil Paper Works, Leslie. This brought him within easy reach of

*Previous to this date, Sir John Muir Mackenzie had a small private golf course at Delvine, and the Delvine Medal played for, while the then Earl of Kinnoull had also a small private golf course at Dupplin Castle.

the Leven links, and he joined the Innerleven Club in 1861, when it was still playing on Dubbieside. soon came to the front as a player. He gradually extended the field of his conquests, by joining other Clubs, and during the next ten years we find him competing on such links as St. Andrews, Musselburgh, Carnoustie. Aberdeen and Perth: the craving for fresh laurels evidently increasing by what it fed on. Like Alexander, longing for fresh worlds, so soon as the newly-formed Clubs at Hoylake and Westward Ho opened their competitions to outsiders, Mr Anderson went south in the hope of adding a few scalps to his belt.

MEDAL VICTORIES.

His achievements at St. Andrews give one a good impression of the quality of his play. In 1868 he took second place at the May Meeting, winning the Bombay medal with a score of 95, and with a similar score at the Autumn Meeting he stood first, taking the King William medal. In 1878, at the May Meeting, he again captured the Bombay Medal, this time in 93 strokes. At the Autumn Meeting he tied with Mr Henry Lamb for the first place at 90 strokes. He had to content himself with the Club's Gold Medal after losing the tie. The following autumn he again won the King William Medal with a score which equalled for the first time, the remarkable score of 88 compiled by Mr George Glennie a quarter of a century At the May Meeting the earlier. following year he returned the first card for the Silver Cross, with one He had good reason stroke less. to be proud of his record in the Royal and Ancient competitions.

It was a calamitous day for the scratch players of the Royal Golfing Society when he was admitted, as a cousin of their much esteemed chaplain, Rev. Dr. John Anderson, to the full membership of the Club. Though not appearing often at Perth, for a period of a dozen years he seldom failed to present himself at the Spring and Autumn Meetings, and as seldom failed to secure one or other of the Gold and Silver Medals that were open for competition.

Gifted with a taste for engineering, Anderson not only effected improvements on the machinery of the Fettykil Mills, but he produced a golf-hole-cutter which was generally adopted by the green-keepers of the leading links; the first specimen being presented by its inventor to the custodian of the Old Course, St. Andrews, old Tom Morris, who used it to the end of his long term of office.

Besides his devotion to business and to the Royal games of Golf and Curling, he gave active support to the Volunteer movement which was inaugurated in 1859, and after holding a commission in the Fife corps for many years, he was decorated with the long service medal, a fitting close to a collection of trophies that had accumulated during the years of his full vigour in Fettykil House. filled the office of Chief Magistrate of Leslie with acceptance and supported with substantial sums the local schemes and charitable objects, Leslie inhabitants have reason to remember his name, alike for his public services and his local benefactions, and as one of the best amateur golfers of the Kingdom of Fife.

MR J. L. LOW.

One of the most brilliant amateur exponents of the game belonging to the County of Perth, hailed from the neighbourhood of the Cathedral City of Dunkeld, viz., Butterstone. At school in St. Andrews, he gave a good illustration of the maxim—"Learn young, learn fair."

Acquiring a knowledge of the game and a graceful style by practice and observations on the Old Course, he very early, when he went to Cambridge, took a prominent place in the University team. That Club was founded in 1875 by another popular player well known in St. Andrews, Mr W. T. Linskill, whose name is coupled in Badminton with that of Mr A. F. Macfie as models of proficiency on the putting green. On Coldham Common his Andrews training stood Mr Low in such good stead that from 1891 to 1894 he played for his University against Oxford. He ranked so

high as a player at that time that he was afterwards elected President of the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society, of which he was captain for no less than twenty years.

In the Medal list of the Royal Golfing Society it will be seen how high a place Mr Low occupied when he appeared to compete at the Spring and Autumn competitions on the North Inch.

In both of the Amateur Championships of 1897 and 1898 Low reached the semi-final round, and in 1901 he got a step nearer the coveted honour, for he reached the final, in which he was opposed by a most formidable golfer, Mr Harold Hilton. match, played on the old links, St. Andrews, was a keenly contested one, and at the "Corner o' the Dyke" was in the Scotsman's favour with one up and two to go. But at the seventeenth hole, which has often played a similar part in big matches, Mr Hilton excelled himself in his second stroke, which reached What is more remarkthe green. able, it remained there, within easy distance of holing, so that he obtained a three and brought the match square with one to play. The shock he received at the Road Hole seemed to upset Mr Low, and he failed to get his half at the home hole, thus losing the Amateur Cup, which he seeemd to have in his grasp. That was in the era of the gutty balls before the rubber core came to annihilate distance. winning stroke at the Road Hole was for many years regarded as the greatest shot played in golf, and it was one which deprived the Royal Golfing Society of the honour of having once more among its members the Amateur Champion.

BOB ANDREWS.

Andrews was born in 1835, in what at the time was the centre of the golfing industry, the North Port. Throughout the past century all the Perth clubmakers had their workshops there. It was there that Johnny Jackson moved when the Royal Society transferred its operations from the South Inch to the North Inch, and all the makers who

followed him had their premises there until the course was laid out on the Moncreiffe Island, when business became brisker once more at the south end of the town. Some of the North Inch Clubs have their quarters there and find the locality suitable.

As a playground the North Inch lay within a few yards of Andrews' door, and thus at an early age the taste was formed that shaped his life and continued strong and pleasurable to the end of it.

Mr James Condie employed him first as caddie, and afterwards promoted him to the post of office messenger with a small salary, it is true, but with the enjoyable privilege of spending the afternoons on the Inch in the company of his master or his sons.

Andrews' first big achievement was to capture the first prize in the professional competition that wound up the St. Andrews tournament of 1859. On that occasion he was Mr George Condie's henchman, and it was decidedly to the credit of the Royal Society and the Fair City that while the amateur carried off the honours in the principal competition, Andrews should follow him up by taking the leading place among the Bob Andrews reached the pinnacle of fame on his home green, when in the 1866 tournament he defeated all the best men of the time. gathered from the east and west, all the talent from St. Andrews, Leven, Musselburgh, Glasgow and Prestwick. In 1867, at Carnoustie in similar company he tied with Willie Park (sen.) and young Tom Morris, the youthful prodigy of St. Andrews, who at sixteen years of age kept Park well in the background and defeated Andrews, then in the prime of life, by two strokes—Morris 132, Andrews 134, for three rounds of nine holes.

In the first tournament ever held on an English links, at Hoylake, in 1872, and in a field of sixteen professionals, Andrews was kept out of the final place by the two irresistible youths and boon companions from St. Andrews—young Tom Morris and Davie Strath. These two players

were then at the top of their game, and it was a credit to himself and to the North Inch that on the Royal Liverpool green, with which he was so little acquainted, Andrews, in the two rounds, came within four strokes of the champion:—Morris 167, Strath 168, Andrews 171.

In his time Andrews played many matches which are recorded in the chronicles of the game. He held the record of forty-eight for the twelve holes of his home green to the end of his days. The neatness of his cleek play was commented upon; the story of his driving a ball off the face of Mr Condie's watch is both a testimony to the accuracy of his play and the confidence reposed in him by his legal employer.

Always a reliable, modest and unassuming man, he died on the first month of the opening year of the century, and had he not expressed the wish that his funeral should be a private one, all the golf Clubs of Perth would have been represented to do honour to his memory.

PERTH PROFESSIONALS.

Although it was never possible for Perth to gather together such a band of clubmakers, professionals, greenkeepers and even notable caddies as St. Andrews or Musselburgh, yet the North Inch has had, during the past century, both clubmakers and players connected with it whose names and achievements are quite worthy of being recorded. Johnny Jackson, Bob Andrews, Watty Macdonald, Andrew Forgan, Jamie Anderson, Peter Stewart, Ben Lang, Simpson, Watt, Joe Anderson, Coltart, etc. The excellence of their handicraft, and some by the brilliancy of their play, earned more than a local fame, and the names of all were held in honour wherever golf was played. Others were Gressick, Sharp, and Tom Potts.

It was not possible for any of them to amass a fortune during last century. Only towards the close of the century did Dame Fortune begin to smile upon golf as a trade or profession, and in Perth the makers and players were worse off than those on seaside links for the season was both short and intermittent, consist-

ing of two months in spring and three in autumn. It was necessary for them to take Solomon's advice and follow the example of the ant in laying up some provision for the leaner times.

A SUMMER COURSE.

Towards the close of last century a spirited attempt was made by some enthusiastic members of the Royal Society to keep the upper portion of North Inch in a condition for play throughout the summer. But the Magistrates and Town Council, as the custodians of the Inch, and in the interests of the cow-feeders, at first refused to sanction the cutting of the grass on the putting-greens or fairway; and when it was reported at a meeting of the Town Council in May, 1882, that a man had been seen at the whins with a horse and cart, mowing and removing rough grass, some of the city fathers thought that the time had come for taking measures to stop such practices. The delinquent was \ndrew Forgan. the greenkeeper, one of the most peaceable and law-abiding of men, but who had been incited to this illegal action by some spirited golfers who wanted to take the law into their own hands. The Dean of Guild of the time, however, soothed the ruffled feelings of the councillors by stating that "he happened to be at the top of the Inch at the time and had taken the liberty of challenging the man for his conduct, who said he would not do so again without the sanction of the Magistrates. Too much liberty had been taken of late by certain individuals, and it was high time that the Magistrates should take some step to prevent the recurrence of such doings."

The position taken up by the Society was briefly stated in a letter addressed to Perth Town Council by the Hon. Secretary of the Club, dated the 24th June, 1878, to the effect that "while the Society had been no party to the cutting of the grass on the golfing course, against which an interdict had been served that day, the Club at the same time begs respectfully to intimate that holding themselves in no way committed to





THE ROYAL CLUB AWARDS.

- 1. The Club's Gold Medal.
- The Centenary Medal, presented by Sir George Kinloch, Bart., Captain of the year.
- 3. The Bombay Silver Medal.
- 4. The Pitfour Silver Medal.
- 5. The Buccleuch Gold Medal.
- 6. The St. Martins Cross.
- 7. The Atholl Cross.

any decision that may be arrived at in regard to said interdict, they maintain and assert a free right to keep the golfing course at all times suitable for the pleasureable exercise of the game of golf."

The civic authorities were never opposed to reasonable privileges being granted to the various Clubs to improve the conditions of the ground for the better enjoyment either of cricket or golf and when terms were arranged between them and their tenants the cowfeeders, were willing to accede to the request that a short summer course should be kept open at the top of North Inch. After a few years it was found that few players patronised it, and the Council of the Society decided that the game was not worth the candle.

OLD TIME GOLF IN PERTH.

From the beginning of the sixteenth century there is evidence that club and ball-making was one of the trades in Perth. From the High Treasurer's accounts we learn that on the 21st September, 1502, James IV. purchased at the price of XIIIIs several clubs from the bowar (or bow-maker) of Saint Johnstoun, showing that in spite of the royal edict against golf, the Perth manufacturer still continued to combine clubmaking with other forms of business, as is still the case, and that the monarch who issued the edict saw no harm in patronising him, although in an Act dated 1491 he had denounced golf as an "unprofitable sport."

The clubs in us' among the members at the formation of the Royal Society would be largely of the St. Andrews make. Hugh Philip, by his artistic skill had produced a new and refined type of club. These were much in vogue, and some of them may be seen in the collection of old clubs and balls, which was formed some years ago by an excaptain, Mr R. W. R. Mackenzie, and, with more recent additions in the glass case in the corridor of the club-house, it has proved an exceedingly interesting and valuable accession to the properties of the club.

The advent of the gutta percha

ball, in the middle of last century, was the death-blow of the feather ball.* It brought consternation to the trade. Allan Robertson tried to slay the newcomer by ridicule. He broke with his partner, Tom Morris, when he learned that he had handled the "unclean thing." But the "gutta" had come to stay for at least two score years, and the feather ball-makers had to adapt themselves to the altered conditions as speedily as possible.

The maker in Perth at that date was David Gressick, who was succeeded by John Sharp. Both of these men were employed by the Royal Society, the former receiving £4 per annum and the latter giving his services at the reduced rate of £2 2/-. Between the two appointments a saving had been effected, the entry in the accounts reading:—"Paid to Alex. Stewart for attendance at competition for the Pitfour Medal—1/6."

A "PRINCELY" SALARY.

After a spell by Tom Potts, when the gutta ball had come into universal use, Watty M'Donald started business in 1864 as a club and ballmaker, in a shop adjoining the Clubhouse in Charlotte Street, and Johnny Jackson, still going strong, removed from North Port to a wooden shop in Athole Street on a vacant site on west side of Stormont Street, and later to the top of North Methven Street. In 1864, M'Donald was engaged as green keeper at a salary of six shillings per week, the conditions being "that he be engaged from week to week only, and at all times be liable to be put off work from unsuitable weather, from irregularity, inattention, neglect or other cause, at the order of the secretary." The King James VI. Club agreed to contribute the sum of 2/6 per week towards the salary. When one learns that the salaries of greenkeepers in some parts of America run to as much as £100 per month, it will be acknowledged that this arrangement was decidedly in favour of the Clubs.

Major Boothby was then asked to enquire as to the possibility of the

^{*}Ben Lang had for years at his North Port premises a mould for making feather golf balls.

Society securing the services of Jamie Anderson, one of Morris' clubmakers, for the office of greenkeeper, and the Hon. Secretary, whose principle was one of the most rigid economy, was not a little astonished to learn that Anderson asked for a salary of one pound per week, with a free house and the usual accompani-Not feeling able to face so large an outlay the Council came to new terms with Watty M'Donald, giving him thirty pounds per annum, with an additional two pounds "for flags and other extra charges,' the King James VI. again agreeing to bear its just proportion.

This arrangement lasted until 1873.

ANDREW FORGAN.

The appearance of Andrew Forgan, a brother of Robert Forgan, the founder of the famous St. Andrews firm, whose brand with the crown below the name is familiar on all recognised links, was a guarantee for reliable club-making in Perth, for Andrew was recognised as a conscientious and capable workman in St. Andrews. His premises in Carpenter Street were conveniently placed for the members of the Society and he proved a thoroughly reliable clubmaker.

The care of the North Inch green was left in the hands of a local gardener during the spring, when the summer short course was opened requiring the use of a horse mower. Forgan accepted the post of greenkeeper at a salary of £1 per week. When after a few seasons, he removed from Perth, the Council showed its appreciation of the manner in which he had conducted himself, and the faithfulness with which he had discharged his duties under considerable difficulties, "by presenting him with a honorarium of ten pounds."

Forgan, like his more famous brother, Robert, did not make any claim to be an exponent of the game. Unlike Morris, who was latterly more of a player than a manufacturer, the elder Forgan was little seen on the links. Till the great extension of the game in the

eighties, four holes out in the mornconstituted his daily constitutional, and from then till the day's close, he was found clad in a linen apron at his bench. brother Andrew, followed on similar restrictive lines. His day's labour gave him all the exercise he re-But the case was different quired. when Jamie Anderson was appointed as his successor. He was bred a clubmaker in the employment of Morris, and could turn out first-class work, but he delighted in golf, and was never so happy as when he could cast off his apron, and take out his clubs for a match in which he considered the odds to be greatly in his favour.

JAMIE ANDERSON.

He came to Perth in 1883, with the highest reputation as a player for in three previous years, '77, '78, and '79 he had succeeded in carrying off the blue ribbon of golf in the Open Championship competitions in three centres, Musselburgh, Prestwick and St. Andrews. win on the second of these occasions was a remarkable one which proved his grit and stamina. J. O. F. Morris, Old Tom's second son, had handed in a card of 161, so far the lowest score and in order to tie with him, Anderson required to do the last four holes in par play, viz., 5, 4, 3, 5, but he rose to the occasion, taking the holes in 3, 4, 1, 5, beating the par figures by as many as four As champion he had to defend his title against the best Scottish talent, and his match in 1878 against Rob Ferguson, Musselburgh's first string, played over the two greens, excited great interest in the golfing fraternity, and while, at the finish, on Ferguson's own green, the match stood all square and two to play, again fortune favoured Anderson and he won them both.

The strong point of Anderson's play was his approach shot. He had a remarkable faculty of pitching to the hole and laying his ball within holing distance. It cannot be doubted a player of his calibre on the North Inch would give greater zest to the game, and that to watch

the play of such an expert would benefit any player who was not

above taking a hint.

Anderson did not remain long in the employ of the Royal Society and King James VI. Clubs. His long association with St. Andrews and the opportunities afforded there, drew him back to the links where he had gained many honours; and he started business there alongside of Old Tom's workshop, where he had spent

many of his best years.

The care of Perth green was then put into the hands of a local player, Peter Stewart, who had taken up the business of Andrew Forgan in Carpenter Street. Stewart was a son of the proprietor of the Kinnoull Arms Hotel, and made himself a high reputation on the North Inch both as a golfer and cricketer. He was a player of a singularly genial disposition, and very unassuming manner, traits which added much to his popularity both among golfers and as a member of the Perthshire Cricket Club. When under the captaincy of Mr Robin Wordsworth. the Perthshire met a touring eleven of M.C.C. and Ground in 1876, and beat them on the North Inch. Alfred Shaw, one of the best of the English team, declared after the match, that Stewart was the best allround cricketer he had come across in the Scottish tour.

THE SIMPSON FAMILY.

In succession to Jamie Anderson. Bob Simpson, one of three brothers, who made clubs and golf history in Carnoustie and elsewhere, took up business in Perth in 1883.

The Simpson family of six sons, born in Elie, were all golfers of repute. The eldest, Jack, in company with Douglas Rolland, also of Elie, playing as amateurs in 1884, were matched against two of the strongest and most experienced members of the Royal and Ancient Club, Messrs Leslie Balfour and Horace Hutchinson, and defeated them over two rounds on Old Links by the substantial margin of seven holes and five to play. Rolland brought the little Fife village into the limelight by accepting the challenge of the famous English amateur, Mr John

Ball, tertius, to play a home and home match against any Scottish amateur who would venture to pick up the gage.

This powerful Elie tradesman, scaling 12 stone 12 lbs., entered the lists, and, in the first stage of the game over Elie links, defeated his opponent by no less than nine holes, and in the second stage at Hoylake, he still further increased his lead. Another match was arranged for the following day, when Mr Ball could start on his home links without the incubus of so heavy an odds, and it looked a hopeless task for Rolland when his opponent stood five up and six to go, but the brawny Scot, by what seemed a sort of super-human effort, not only wiped out the deficit, but won the match at the last hole. A grandson of Rolland now in Perth.

In the Open Championship of 1884 at Prestwick, which was won by Jack Simpson in 160 strokes, his fellow townsman, Rolland, still playing as an amateur, tied for second place with Willie Fernie, Troon, with cards of four strokes more.

It is not often that three brothers play together in high-class matches, but that was the case with the Simpsons, who carried on a joint business in Carnoustie, and extended their operations by starting a branch establishment in Perth.

MONCREIFFE ISLAND.

When Archie Simpson sold his business to his foreman Watt, the latter removed his premises from the North Port to the south end of Tay Street, in order to be in closer communication with the King James VI. Club, which had found the North Inch becoming too closely packed for enjoyable play, even with the South Muirton fields added.

After a few years trial of a course laid out alongside the railway at Bridge of Earn, King James Club settled in 1896 on Moncreiffe Island, secured on a long lease from the Town Council, where it soon converted the farm land into an admirable eighteen hole golf links, and where, after thirty-nine years of continuous sport and rivalry, it carries on its contests, lengthening its cords, and strengthening its stakes.

BEN LANG.

In due succession Watt handed the business over to his assistant, On the north Frank Coltart. side of the town, the office of greensman passed from Peter Stewart's keeping into that of Ben Lang, another player and maker who was bred near North Inch. The son of a hairdresser, his taste lay in the open rather than in the confinement of Apprenticed to Glasgow the saloon. engineers, the shaping of wooden heads, making greens, and the telling of golf stories was much more to his liking.

Lang began the club-making business in St. Andrews where the skill of his workmanship soon became the subject of remark. Of an unsettled disposition, he moved from one employer to another, from Forgan to M'Ewan, Musselburgh. then Patrick in Dunbar, to Mungo Park in Alnmouth, and from there to Willie Fernie, Troon. After a spell with the County Down G.C., Newcastle. Ireland, he did service for Sir W. Dalrymple in the workshop of Hutchison, North Berwick. Still unsettled, Lang took a further flight to the New World, and was appointed greenkeeper to the Royal Golf Club, supplying Montreal material as far west as Vancouver, where flourished a club that was instituted by a son of a medalist both of the Royal and Ancient Club and the Perth Royal Society, Admiral Maitland Dougal of Scotscraig.

For his health's sake Lang returned to England, and after a twelvementh as custodian of the Epping Forest green, found his way back, in 1896, to his former quarters in the North Port.

BEN LANG'S SKILL.

The Perth players made good use of his skill and artistic touch in duplicating any favourite weapon. He had now earned a wide-spread reputation, for at the central home of Scottish golf, Robert Forgan, who after the spread of the game employed as many as fifty workmen, accounted Ben Lang one of the best craftsmen he had ever employed. He also spoke highly of his ingenuity

as a locksmith. Forgan had a boxroom, the divisions of which were let. out to students and others at so much a month, each case having its own key retained by the player who used it. But he occasionally wished to look through the boxes, to find if any happened to be vacant, and spoke to Lang about it. Lang asked him for one of the keys and with a file he so manipulated it that it became a master-key, capable of opening any one of the numerous boxes—a useful but in some ways a dangerous qualification.

The highest compliment Lang ever received for his undoubted talent as a club-maker was paid him by Jamie Anderson in '79, the year of that player's third successive champion-He felt he stood in need of a ship. good driver, and though himself proficient in the art, he asked Lang to supply him with one. the sort of club Anderson required. for though a short, stout man, Anderson used a long-shafted play-club. Ben sought out the most likely beech and hickory and put his best workmanship upon them. Jamie took the finished article out to the links and played out to the "Corner o' the Dyke," saying on his return, "I think it'll do it," and it did!

THE BOMBAY MEDAL.

Besides the Royal Perth Golfing Society's handsome Gold Medal and the Pitfour Silver one, there have been added from time to time other awards, till the scratch and handicap prizes are sufficient to meet the needs of both the spring and autumn meetings. One of the earlier of these came from our Indian dependency, and has been entitled the Bombay Medal.

It came as an acknowledgement of an act of courtesy paid by the Perth Golfing Society to one of the earliest Indian clubs. Although the Playfairs of St. Andrews have the credit of introducing the game at several important centres in India, the club at Bombay was instituted by a member of the Royal Perth Golfing Society, and this is how the hon. secretary introduces the subject to his fellow members.

"INDIA'S CORAL STRAND."

At a general meeting held in the Society's Hall in Charlotte Street in September, 1845, "The Secretary stated that a Golf Society had a few years ago been established at Bombay by Dr. Buist, a member of this society, of which the doctor was Secretary. He thought that the Royal Perth Golfing Society should show some mark of respect and brotherly feeling towards a Society with which so many of us were connected in India, and proposed that the captain of the Bombay Golfing Society should be appointed an honorary member of this Club, which motion was carried by acclamation."

This courteous action bore rare fruit. The honourable recognition of a new Club on "India's coral strand" was so highly appreciated by the members, that in the course of a few years, a silver medal was presented to the Royal Perth Society and entitled "The Bombay Medal." The Club was thus in possession of two gold and two silver medals, and it was found necessary to readjust the awards for the spring and autumn meetings, so that at the general meeting in April, 1857, "it was moved by Sir Thomas Moncreiffe and seconded by Captain Boothby, that a competition for the Society's Gold Medal and the Pitfour Silver Medal as first and second prizes, should take place at the spring meeting, and a competition for Buccleuch Gold Medal and the Bombay Silver Medal, as first and second prizes, shall take place at the autumn meeting, which motion beof, ing approved was carried unanimously."

THE ST. MARTINS CROSS.

Immediately after the re-election of Colonel Macdonald Macdonald of St. Martins to the office of captain at the General Meeting in April, 1871, "the Secretary officially informed the Club that Colonel Macdonald had presented a Silver Cross to be known as the 'St. Martins Cross,' for competition among the members, at the spring and autumn meetings, players to be handicapped, and that the necessary arrangements

had been made for the first competition to take place that day, simultaneously with the competition for the Club medals. The Secretary was requested to convey to Col. Macdonald the cordial thanks of the meeting for his handsome gift."

It would have been thought that the St. Martins Cross would, therefore, provide a stimulus for the poorer players of the club, but either because the handicapping committee were not sufficiently generous in their allowances, or the handicapped players were unduly excited by the hope of winning a prize, in the next four competitions the St. Martins Cross was won by the scratch players. In the circumstances this result seemed likely to defeat Col. Macdonald's purpose, which was to provide a prize which fall to a poorer player, and not to multiply the awards of the Medal winners. Therefore some restriction had to be applied to the higher class players of the Club, and it was applied in this most drastic fashion.

At the autumn General Meeting of 1873, it was stated that Col. Macdonald wished to make a suggestion with regard to the St. Martins Cross, which he had the honour of presenting to the Society. The object he had in giving it was to encourage competition among the younger players and those who, from whatever cause, had not attained to the honour of winning a Club medal, but judging from the results since the St. Martins Cross had been competed for he was afraid his object would be defeated if it remained competent for those who had held Club medals to win it. He hoped, therefore, that the meeting would approve of his wish, viz., that in no case shall the Cross become the property of any member until gained by him three times consecutively, and that from and after the competition of next spring it can be won only by a member who has never gained a Royal Perth Golfing Society Medal. The suggestion and wish of Colonel Macdonald having been put to the meeting, unanimously approved of and

agreed to, and future competitions for the St. Martins Cross fixed in accordance therewith.

THE ATHOLL CROSS.

On the 13th April, 1881, at a general meeting of the Society, in the absence of His Grace the Duke of Atholl, Mr Ross, senior member of the Council, was called on to On the motion of John preside. Steel, Esq. of Blackpark, His Grace the Duke of Atholl was unanimously re-elected captain of the Society. At the following meeting of Council, a letter was read from His Grace, dated 14th April, expressing regret at his inability from a sprained knee to attend the General Meeting on the 13th inst., and intimating his intention of requesting acceptance by the members of the Club of a silver medal to be presented by him; also a letter of date 15th inst. sending the medal referred to which was produced by the Secretary for in-The meeting requested spection. the Secretary to express on behalf of the members of the Royal Club their high sense and appreciation of His Grace's kindness, and their most cordial thanks for the handsome medal and at the same time to request His Grace's sanction to its being played for as a club handicap medal alternatively in each year with the St. Martins Cross, and on the same conditions, the one in spring, the other in autumn.

At the next meeting of Council, held on the 20th May, the Secretary produced a letter from His Grace the Duke of Atholl, of date 22nd April, agreeing to the suggestion on the part of the Council, that the Atholl Cross should be played for as a club handicap medal, always to remain the property of the Society, and to be competed for alternatively with the St. Martins Cross. Secretary having stated that sanction and authority of Col. Macdonald Macdonald, donor of the St. Martins Cross, had been secured to make whatever new arrangements in regard to playing for it that the Council might deem best in the interests of the game, under the additional handicap medal to play "The Council accordingly hereby resolve, that henceforth the 'Atholl Cross' shall be played for at the autumn meeting and the 'St. Martins Cross' at the spring meeting of the Society, each as a handicap medal, always to remain the property of the Society and Club, and open for competition only to members of the club who have never won an ordinary medal in this or any other recognised golf club." So that the regulations for the St. Martins Cross were thus made more and more stringent.

MR GEORGE CONDIE.

For the most part the portraits which adorn the dining-room of the Club are the gifts of the retiring captains, but there are one or two exceptions, as in the case of Sir David Moncreiffe, the first captain. George Condie was held in high repute as a golfer. The Club was proud of him, for had he not distinguished himself on the classic fields of St. Andrews? He died a comparatively young man, in January, At the General Meeting in 1869. April, it is minuted, "This being



interests of the game, under the altered circumstances of having an ["P.A." Photo. from Painting in Royal Club.

the first General Meeting held since the lamented death of Mr George Condie, the members present resolve to record a minute expressive of their deep sense of the great loss the Royal Perth Golfing Society has sustained in the removal of one who from his earliest years had so warmly interested himself in all matters relating to its welfare and prosperity, who from his acknowledged position as the best gentleman golfer of his day, had at home as elsewhere proved himself one of its brightest ornaments, whose memory will long be cherished and his loss deeply deplored by every member of it."

COLONEL WILLIAMSON OF LAWERS.

The following year at the annual dinner of the Society held in Royal British Hotel under the chairmanship of Colonel Williamson Lawers, "after the usual ceremony had been gone through with new members, it was proposed by Lord Charles Kerr, seconded by Thomas Moncreiffe, Bart., that a portrait or likeness of the late Mr George Condie should be procured, and hung up in the Society's Hall, a proposal which was unanimously entertained, and the matter handed over to the Council, along with Lord Charles Kerr, to carry out, in the manner which may seem best."

At the meeting in April, 1871, it is minuted that "Mr Hunter in the unavoidable absence of Lord Charles presented to the Royal Perth Golfing Society, and begged acceptance of a handsomely framed picture of the late Mr George Condie from the following gentlemen:-The Earl of Kinnoull, The Earl of Mansfield, The Viscount Stormont, Lord Charles Kerr, Sir P. M. Threipland, Bart.; Sir Thomas Moncreiffe, Bart.; Sir A. M. Mackenzie, Bart.; Charles A. Murray, Esq., Taymount: William Smythe, Esq., of Methven; Lt.-Col. Macdonald Macdonald of St. Martins; John Grant, Esq., of Kilgraston; Charles MacLean, Esq., of Glenearn; D. R. Williamson, Esq., of Lawers; Arch. Turnbull, Esq., of Bellwood: A.

Burns Macdonald, Esq., of Glencoe; H. V. Hunter, Esq. The chairman (Mr Maxtone Graham) on behalf of the Society, said he had much pleasure in accepting the picture, which he was sure must prove highly acceptable to its members as a pleasing remembrance of one who as the most successful golfer of his day, was so distinguished a member of this club, and begged to propose a hearty vote of thanks to those gentlemen, which was seconded by Mr Blair, and cordially agreed to."

MR JAMES F. PULLAR.

One of the most generous donors to the Club was Mr James F. Pullar, of Rosebank. Not only did he defray the whole expense of converting the rough Muirton field into fairly firm golf turf, and laid out five putting greens upon it, thus saving a considerable charge upon all the golf Clubs of the city, but in October, 1888, he intimated his intention of presenting a cup, to be called the Rosebank Cup, and to be competed for according as the Society thought right. These were the conditions under which the cup was accepted. It was to be open to ordinary and Garrison members, by handicap, the Council being the handicappers; the competition was to be by holes, and any player winning the cup three times (not necessarily in succession) "should retain the same in his own property!"

In December, 1892, a communicawas received from Captain tion J. C. Livingstone of the Black Watch, referring to position of the Rosebank Cup competition and read at a meeting of the Council, when after consideration, it was agreed "that as the competition was meant to be concluded and finished in the autumn, Mr Morgan had lost all right to compete farther for the cup by his inability to finish the final heat on account of his absence abroad. The cup was accordingly awarded to Captain Livingstone, he having won the trophy twice" (the condition having been altered to that extent). But whether Captain Livingstone felt that the last heat

had been a "walk over," or from some other cause, he must have resigned the cup for the competition continued for another five years, until the spring of 1897. Dr. Robert Stirling, who learnt his golf on the Old Links of St. Andrews, also succeeded in winning it twice, when it was adjudged to have become "his own property." In May of that year, Mr Pullar, who had been elected Captain at the General Meeting of 1892, added yet another favour by presenting a silver claret jug for competition under similar terms.

Mr Pullar gave several valuable golfing pictures and enriched the library with books on the game. His last kindness in this respect was a small card of "Golf Maxims" to which he was much attached, by Robert Forgan, a son of the founder of the well-known golfing firm, and concerning which he sent the writer the following interesting communication from Homberg, in 1912:—"My daughter, Mrs Grant, met the author ' Golf Maxims' at St. Andrews, New Brunswick. Mr Forgan is at the head of the largest bank in Chicago and is a first-class golfer. The maxims were quoted at the close of an after-dinner speech, and the first place he saw them was at Geneva, in Switzerland. not know they were to be printed."

Other donors of prizes were Mr T. W. Greig of Glencarse, who, in 1892, presented a silver-mounted liqueur stand, and at a later date a Silver Medal for competition. The Marquis of Tullibardine (now the Duke of Atholl) during his Captaincy in 1907, presented a cup for the best aggregate score after handicap, at the Spring and Autumn competitions. Mr Alexander Macduff of Bonhard, New Scone, gifted a valuable prize in order to encourage the old-fashioned foursome play on the afternoon of the Autumn Competition.

A CHAPLAIN'S TRIBUTE.

At the General Meeting of 14th April, 1897, the minute records that Lord Balvaird lamented the loss that the Club had sustained in the

death of its Chaplain, the Rev. John Anderson, D.D., minister of Kinnoull, and moved that a letter of sympathy should be sent to his relatives. Dr. Anderson had held office for upwards of 50 years and not only discharged the duties of his office sacred but occasionally officiated as Chairman at the Club's annual dinner, where his geniality and good fellowship and his feast of oratory had added much to the enjoyment and success of the meeting. The minute of Dr. Anderson's election as Chaplain is an interesting It is dated 28th October, 1846, and runs as follows:- "A ballot having been taken for the admission of new members, Captain M'Lean, of the Royal Artillery, and the Rev. John Anderson, minister of the East Church of Perth, were unanimously admitted, and the latter gentleman was appointed Chaplain to the Society, in room of Dr. Esdaile, who has now left Perth."

Dr. Anderson celebrated his jubilee in 1896. He was a cousin of Mr Charles Anderson, Fettykil, Fife, a front-rank player, who went far and near to prove his prowess and annex trophies, and who for a time figured prominently in the prize-lists of the Society. As Chaplain, Dr. Anderson was succeeded by the Rev. A. J. B. Baxter, the Chaplain of H.M. Perth General Prison, and he in turn by the Rev. Dr. Ballingal, of Rhynd The present holder of the office is the Rev. J. S. Macnaughton, recently retired from St. Leonard's Parish Church, Perth.

GROWTH AND CHANGE.

It would not be according to the law of Nature if golf had continued for a whole century to be played as it was in the days of Allan Robertson with wooden clubs only and balls made of cow-hide stuffed full of feathers.

One style of contest which excited great interest in golfing circles was the home-and-home match between two professional players for sums of money varying from £20 up to £200.

Older players can recall the intense interest with which golfers followed the several stages of

matches played between Morris and Park over two or even four greens; between Tom Morris, jun. and Davie Strath, and between Bob Ferguson and Jamie Anderson, Andrew Kirkcaldy and James Braid, and between Willie Park, jun. and Harry Vardon. A few of the well-known veteran professionals still doing well in competitions such as Taylor and Sandy Herd took part in such old-time fixtures, but the present day competitions which bring together players from all parts of the compass have done away with the home and home Players have abundant matches. opportunity of testing their strength against one another when they meet at big Scottish and English centres for a full week at a time in trials of skill for awards to £1000.

PRESENT-DAY COMPETITIONS.

These competitions take a much longer time to decide because the entrants nowadays run up to as many as a couple of hundreds, and there is accordingly a long list of those who "spend their strength for naught," so that a professional's lot may sometimes be described as "not a happy one." There is a decided tendency to overdo these prolonged competitions, which take the players away too often from their own particular greens and with a few fortunate exceptions, without putting anything into their pockets.

Several reasons have been suggested for the remarkable expansion of golf in England, Scotland and elsewhere in the last two decades of last century. The most satisfactory is the enterprise of Messrs Forgan & Son, and especially the latter, in taking a stand in the Edinburgh Exhibition of 1881 and showing their goods and gear there. The game was explained to hundreds of enquirers and good business done, and an impetus given that has never ceased to this day.

From employing one or two hands, Forgan's premises required in a few years to be extended to accommodate half a hundred club and ball-makers, and over the country new golf clubs sprung up almost with the celerity of Jonah's gourd.

ENTER THE LADIES.

Ladies took to the game over the regular links some fifty or sixty years ago, having previously confined themselves to putting courses. In the seventies only one lady ventured on the Old Course in St. Andrews, Miss Chambers, daughter of Dr. Robert Chambers. Now the Ladies' Golf Clubs might fittingly adopt the motto of our Royal Artillery "Ubique."

The expansion was more remarkable in England than Scotland. to that time there were few known Clubs across the Border. names ofBlackheath, Hovlake. Westward Ho, and Sandwich were already familiar as centres of the game, two of them being much frequented by Scottish players, although the game had no real hold upon the mind of the people. was spoken of as "Scotch Croquet." It was sneered at by the athlete as "a pottering old-man's game."

NEWSPAPER REPORTS.

The general public were puzzled beyond measure in reading the few reports that were admitted to the sporting newspapers. Who could understand, for example, such a statement as "Mr Smith took his wooden club, and struck the hill in the face." "Dormy" and "stimie" were hard to translate.

The reports were not always as exact as they are now. A prominent Scottish paper had it that " Mr Thomson drove his ball into the middle of a banker." It even caused great alarm in the family circle of player who had gone to St. Andrews for the Medal Competition when they read that at the finish of his round "he played a great shot with his lofting iron, and fell dead at the hole." But the terms and nomenclature are so well understood now that they require no glossary, and may be applied to illustrate truth and counsel as confidently as in the case of the divine of the 17th century who taught his flock that the righteous man is he who "keeps the Devil at two more."

In the matter of illustrations too, what a great advance has taken

place during the last fifty years. The use of the camera has enabled the photographer to represent every action of the golfer, to depict every style of play from the graceful to the grotesque, in newspapers, magazines and books.

A MAGAZINE ARTICLE.

The first article on the game that appeared in an English magazine was written by a Perth literary man, Mr Tom Whitehead, son of the French master in Perth Academy and for a brief period a member of the Royal Golfing Society. It appeared in 1863, in "London Society," a magazine no longer in existence, and gave a chatty account of a visit he paid to St. Andrews and of a match he followed on the Old Links between Captain F- and Mr M-, whose identity could be easily ascer-The article was accomtained. panied by two illustrations drawn by "C. A. Doyle," one, a group on the putting green showing the men in "Dundreary" whiskers, and the ladies wearing wide crinolines, and the other entitled "Driving" in which two players are addressing their balls at the same time, that of the central figure being set on a tee almost twice the height of the As Mr Whitehead was himball. self something of an artist, the likelihood is that he sent original sketches of these pictures which were touched up and prepared for the magazine by C. A. Doyle.

In early illustrations players were shown in most ungainly attitudes, some handling a club as if engaged in throwing the heavy hammer, but now the easy grace of the finished golfer is so clearly imprinted as to teach beginners how to play.

DISORDERLY ONLOOKERS.

There is a change, too, in the orderliness of the crowd of onlookers since the days when they gave way to their feelings in the unrestrained excitement of a big match. There are tew now who can recall the scene on Musselburgh Links in the final round of the £200 contest between Old Tom and Willie Park, when the gallery gathered close round the players on the put-

ting green, the partizans of the local champion cheering him and in turn jeering at his opponent. Stones. turnips, and other missiles were brought into use for the purpose of annoying Morris and diverting his aim, until, within a few holes from home, Mr Robert Chambers, who was acting as umpire, stopped play for the day and postponed the finish for a couple of days until proper arrangements could be made for the control of the spectators. There is no such rowdyism to be seen on the A staff of stewards enlinks now. sures scope and stillness for every shot in the match, and in the huge galleries that accompany the leading players there is always found the generous spirit that applauds every meritorious shot, whoever the player may be.

THE ENGLISH INVASION.

It is little more than half-acentury since the invasion of Scotland by English players began. first offer to try conclusions with a Scottish player came from Westward Ho. In 1875, Mr Arthur Molesworth, an amateur, played a three days' match at St. Andrews against Tommy Morris, who was at that time Scotland's first string in the professional rank. Two rounds a day were played. On the last day with the links under snow Mr Molesworth refused to submit to the referee's ruling that the match be postponed, and the result was in Morris' favour by nine and seven holes.

The next notable Scots-English encounter on Scottish soil was a little In 1878, Mr W. more successful. H. Holdsworth and Captain Molesworth arranged that the latter with his three sons should engage in two rounds on St. Andrews links, the former with three representatives of the Royal and Ancient Club, and, the following week, play a similar match against representatives of the Prestwick club. The St. Andrews players were Dr. Argyle Robertson, and Messrs Ogilvie Fairlie and Leslie Balfour, and those at Prestwick were the Rev. Mr Sime and Messrs Ogilvie Fairlie and Alex. Stuart.

The result of the two matches was a win for the Westward Ho players by six holes at St. Andrews and seven holes at Prestwick, but if the two originators had omitted the brothers Molesworth would have suffered defeat, for Captain Molesworth was nine holes to the good against Mr Holdsworth on St. Andrews links, and ten holes against him over Prestwick, which proved that the Captain was a better match player than Mr Holdsworth. Still, the match proved that there were English amateurs, at that date, who could meet, without discredit, the best of their own class in Scotland.

MR JOHN BALL, JUN.

Five years later another notable effort was made by an English player to gain the ascendency over his amateur rivals in the north. John Ball, jun., who was regarded by Hoylake players as invincible on his own links, and whose golf record is not only a high but a remarkable one, issued a challenge to any Scottish amateur to play a home and home match of thirty-six holes over each green. The reply came from an unexpected quarter, Mr Douglas Rolland, an artizan member of the Elie and Earlsferry Club, took up the challenge and in the first half of the match over the nine hole course of the little Fife village, acquitted himself so well that he gained a lead of no less than nine holes over his Hoylake opponent. On the English green he won a memorable victory by adding still further to his already long lead. Douglas Rolland two years later joined the ranks of the professionals, but in the Elie and Hoylake encounter he proved that there were Scottish amateurs of the highest calibre, outside of the principal golfing centres. His opponent was an English player of the highest class, who afterwards was the first amateur to win the Open Champion-And when it is recalled that ship. Mr Ball won the blue ribbon of amateur golf no less than four times between 1888 and 1894, once at Prestwick, twice at Hoylake, and once at Sandwich, it will be readily acknowledged that England had by that time planted herself pretty firmly in the records and annals of the game. Other English players who gained a high reputation in Scotland were Messrs Horace Hutchinson (who defeated Mr Henry A. Lamb in the final at St. Andrews of the Amateur Championship in 1886, and the following year retained the title at Hoylake by the narrowest possible victory over Mr John Ball, and Harold Hilton, who jun.) Championship the Open gained honours at Muirfield. He and Ball were both members of the Royal Liverpool Club.

UNITED STATES TAKE UP GOLF.

Up to the last decade of the nineteenth century there was little interest shown in the game of golf in the United States.

In March, 1889, the "Edinburgh Evening Dispatch" contained an article from the "Philadelphia Times " of the previous month was probably the which that had of the game notice appeared in the American press. The following is a short extract:-"Up to this time golf has made little way in the United States. occasionally played in Canada, although even there it has not assumed the importance of a regular department of sports. It is a game that demands at once the utmost physical development upon the part of the player, as well as a considerable amount of skill, and it arouses the interest only of those who go into sports for the love of action. No man should attempt to play golf who has not good legs to run with and good arms to throw with. as well as a modicum of brain power to direct his play. It is far from being a "dude" game. It is by the nature of the game itself, a most aristocratic exercise, for no man can play at golf who has not a servant at command to assist him. It is probable that no sport exists in the world to-day or ever did exist in which the services of a paid assistant are so essential as in this national game of Scotland.

truth is that the servant is as essential to the success of the game as

the player himself."

Then followed a ludicrous and misleading description of the game which, it was stated, consisted in a trial of speed as to which player could knock his ball into a hole before the other, the caddies or "servants" running after them bearing their clubs.

And yet so rapidly did a knowledge of the game spread and the desire to learn it take hold upon those who favoured out-of-door pastimes that within a few years hundreds of golf courses were laid out, and in 1895 Mr C. B. Macdonald won the Amateur Championship on the Newport links, receiving a gold medal, and handed over to the custody of the Chicago Golf Club, the £1000 Silver Vase presented for annual competition by Mr T. A. Havemeyer, president of the United States Golf Association.

GOLFITIS.

When the disease known as golfitis began to spread in Perth in the eighties, it became apparent, especially on a Saturday afternoon, that the Peninsula was overcrowded in the regular round and a veto was put on the extra holes.

It was felt at that date by many of the Perth players that if golf was to continue to be a "pleasureable recreation," steps must be taken to enlarge the course. In 1892, during the captaincy of Mr J. F. Pullar, an arrangement was entered into with Mr Morton, tenant of the Muirton farm, whereby the members of the Royal Society, King James VI. Club and the Artizan Club should have access to a Muirton field for the purpose of golf, at a yearly rent of £7. It was unfortunately thought to be unnecessary to obtain a lease of the ground on these terms.

On September 5th, 1892, a large gathering of Perth golfers and others interested was held in the Muirton field for the purpose of inaugurating the extension of the green which was to put the Perth Clubs in possession of a course

according to the prescriptive dimension of eighteen holes.

OPENING OF EXTENDED NORTH INCH COURSE.

There were also present on the occasion, the Lord Provost and a number of the Magistrates and Town Councillors. Mr Wm. Whitelaw Member for the city, presided, and after congratulating the golfers of Perth on getting an extension that would afford more scope for their sport, he called for a vote of thanks to Mr J. F. Pullar, the Captain of the Royal Society, for the interest he had taken and for his generosity in bearing the expense of laving out the field, clearing the course, and turfing the putting greens. He then presented Mr Pullar with a golf club, suitably inscribed, and called upon him to open the extended course.

In his reply, Mr Pullar said that Lord Mansfield and his tenant had shown great consideration in meeting the wishes of the golf clubs, and he thanked them. He also thanked the Lord Provost and Councillors for attending the function, and thus showing their interest in the recreations of the community and in the success of the several golf associations,

An adjournment having been made to a marquee, the Lord Provost proposed the toast of "Success to the New Green." The Magistrates and Town Council, he said, were interested in all that pertained to the social welfare of the citizens, in their trades and employment, as well as in their legitimate pastimes and and, among their recreations, numerous amusements, there was none in which they were so glad to see so many of the people engaged as in that of the Royal and Ancient He thought that as soon as possible a ladies' golf club should be formed. The present course might in due time be extended, as far as the Almond, and then, if their links did not excel those of St. Andrews, they would at least be a great acquisition to golfers in the Fair City.

The health of Mr Whitelaw was then proposed by Mr S. Cowan, who said that Mr Whitelaw had come among them as a complete stranger, but his high qualities as a speaker, combined with his social disposition, had commended him to all, and since being elected M.P. no one could have done more for the local institutions than he had done. In replying to the toast, Mr Whitelaw said he took the greatest possible interest in all that concerned the citizens of Perth, especially in regard to the games of the youth of the city. They had now one of the finest links in the kingdom. He hoped the golfing fraternity would find the extension a great boon and that they would sometime do what the people of St. Andrews and other places had failed to do, teach him how to play the game.

NURSERY OF SCOTTISH CRICKET.

Major C. H. Dundas gave "The Lord Provost and Magistrates," saying that were it not for their management and discretion, things would not go on so smoothly as they were doing, not only financially, but also with regard to the health of the people. He was of opinion that Perth was the healthiest city in Great Britain. This was owing largely to the benefit young and old derived from their recreations on the North Inch. It had been described as the nursery of Scottish cricket, it could also be described as a nursery Thanks to the of world-wide golf. Lord Provost and Magistrates, the golfers of Perth had always had everything done for them that they could reasonably expect.

The ceremony was followed by several closely-contested matches among the players.

ARRANGEMENT THAT FELL THROUGH.

It is sage counsel which warns men against building their hopes too high, and, though, at the outset, there seemed good promise that for many years Perth golfers would be able to enjoy an afternoon round without any of those irritating delays that are so liable to put a highstrung player off his game, the arrangement that had been so happily inaugurated soon fell through. The tenant of the Muirton seems to have felt he had made a bad bargain, and decided to end it.

In September, 1896, Mr Pullar, as convener of the Green Committee, had to report "that Mr Morton had declined to give up the key of the gate of the Muirton Field to Riley (the green-keeper), and had threatened to destroy the greens if he proceeded by force." In the circumstances, the meeting instructed the secretary to apply for interdict against any interference in any way, Riley to have the gate opened and the grass mown.

KING JAMES VI. CLUB SECURE NEW COURSE.

At the same meeting, a letter was read from the Secretary of King James VI. Club, intimating that that Club was to quit the field. For nearly two score years many of the members had been pitted against one another on the historical battlefield of the North Inch, and they had upheld the credit of Perth golf against many doughty rivals there, including St. Andrews University and many friendships had been formed.

The increase of their membership made it necessary for them to seek out a fresh field, where they would have fuller and freer scope for their energies. They found another Inch awaiting them, and having secured a lease of Moncreiffe Island from the Town Council, the following year saw them enter into their new possession.

Large sums and much thought and care have been expended on the fairway and greens, until now the club can boast of a good 18-hole course.

UPKEEP OF NORTH INCH.

The migration of the King James VI. Club had seriously affected the condition that had so long obtained among the North Inch clubs, and the question of the upkeep of the course caused some searching of hearts among the members of the Inter-Club Green Committee. But in

addition to this, it had been a sore trial to the tenant of the Muirton to see "the tender grass, so fresh and sweet," which should have fattened his bullocks, mown down and thrown The spirit of into decaying heaps. the stock-breeder was stirred, and he put a padlock on the gate. But more conciliatory measures were The tenant required then adopted. higher terms for the use of his pasture and the disturbance of his He was willing to sub-let the field at a rent of £40 per annum. This offer was rejected by the clubs, who suggested a rent of £2 10/- per This the tenant declined, but was willing to go to arbitration, a proposal which the Royal Club could not see its way to accept.

The correspondence ended and in April, 1897, the last medal competition played over the extended course, under the original agreement took place.

For the next quarter of a century Perth golf was carried on over the restricted course, the conditions on which being improved by the formation of the Moncreiffe Island green, as well as by the inauguration of a new course on the slopes of Craigie Hill some years later.

MORE ELBOW ROOM NECESSARY.

During the distressing and anxious years of the Great War, there were no medal competitions by the Royal Club, and little play was carried on, for the reason that all the able-bodied men and youths were engaged doing their duty for King and Country in foreign lands or on many waters.

But when, on the conclusion of hostilities, the Royal Club and other players, who had so gallantly supported the Army and Navy in safe-guarding our national independence and preserving our liberties, returned to their avocations in civil life, it then became evident that not only for the summer term, but throughout the whole season, there was a clamant demand for more elbow-room than the

North Inch afforded. Up to April, 1923, the North Inch course was kept in order entirely by a joint committee of the several clubs playing there. The Clubs subscribed to defray the expense, proportionate to their abilities, and the committee selected the greenkeeper and settled all matters of expense.

But in April, 1923, the secretary of the Royal Club informed Perth Town Council that the clubs were not prepared to maintain a summer course at their own charges; and, on the motion of Bailie Baxter, himself a golf enthusiast, and historian of "Golf in Perth and Perthshire," Perth Council resolved to defray the expense of maintaining the green in satisfactory order from 1st May to 30th August.

At a later period Bailie Baxter got a Town Council Committee appointed to consider the matter of an additional golf course for Perth at Oakbank on the site now occupied by the new Perth Academy. The idea was considered too ambitious for Perth, and fell through.

LORD PROVOST DEWAR'S GENEROSITY.

It is a familiar apothegm that "the occasion brings the man," and the North Inch problem was partly solved in 1923 when the Lord Provost, the Hon. John Dewar (now Lord Forteviot) purchased from the Earl of Mansfield the field that had already brought joy and grief to the hearts of the local clubs, and presented it to the town, and completely removed the difficulties confronting the Club when, a few years later, he dealt in similar fashion with the much larger field, lying immediately to the west of the former one in South Muirton farm.

On the 6th October, 1923, another celebration on the opening of the extended course took place when Lord Provost Dewar drove off the first ball, and Councillor Downie, convener of the Inches Committee, expressed the thanks of the community for the inestimable boon he had bestowed upon it.

OPENING EXHIBITION MATCH.

Thereafter, in honour of the occasion, a match took place between two of the foremost amateur players of Perth, Messrs P. W. Campbell and T. M. Burrell, the Scottish Amateur Champion of the year, the former being partnered by Joe Anderson and the latter by Gordon Lockhart, Gleneagles Hotel golf courses.

The match proved a close and interesting one, worthy of the traditions of the North Inch, and the game stood all square and two to play. Mr Campbell holed the seventeenth hole (350 yards) in 3, by means of a long run up, and put his side in a comfortable position, but Lockhart's tee shot was on the green at the last hole (250 yards), and with another 3, he staved off defeat.

The respective scores were stated as under:-Joe Anderson, 33 and 34-67; Mr Campbell, 34 and 36-70; Lockhart, 35 and 35-70; and Mr Burrell, 37 and 36-73, a result which not only brought credit to the players but spoke well for the management and control of the course which the Town Council were now to undertake as part of their municipal responsibilities. century North Inch course had been managed by the golfers themselves, aided latterly by a grant from the Town Council, but now the entire supervision was to be vested in that body, who were to be reimbursed for their outlay by means of a small charge levied on all who took advantage of the course.

But the benefaction of the Lord Provost was not yet concluded, and in little more than two years, he was in terms, as has been stated, with the Earl of Mansfield for a further and larger purchase of ground to be added to the course. The same conditions were observed when the land was bought, the tenants compensated, the ground laid out and ready for the enjoyable recreation of the golfers, the field was then handed over to the town.

ANOTHER EXTENSION CELEBRATED.

On Saturday, April 9th, 1927, yet another extension was celebrated on the North Inch. This time the addition was so considerable as to make the North Inch now the longest of the three courses connected with the city, 5045 yards in the summer months, and about 5700 yards during the winter.

In the absence of the Hon. John Dewar, the course was inaugurated by Lord Provost Dempster, and as an illustration of the increased popularity of the game, four representatives from no less than twelve accedited Clubs of the City took part in a prize competition. were in order of merit for the day-Craigie Hill, King James Merchants, Artisans, Railwaymen, Victoria, Police, "Perthshire Advertiser," Black Watch, Postal, St. Paul's Parish Church, and Masonic. The prizes for the best individual scores were won by Dr. Sellar, 78, and Mr Lindsay Gillies, 79.

Mr Macduff of Bonhard, the Captain of the Royal Club, who moved a vote of thanks to the Lord Provost for presiding, expressed regret that as some of their stronger players were engaged elsewhere, the Royal Club had resolved not to enter a team for the competition. members of the club, he said, were very grateful to Mr Dewar for his valuable gift, as well as to the Lord Provost and the Town Council for the upkeep of the course, and also he might add to Mr J. S. Campbell, Superintendent of the Inches, for his care and supervision. members of the Royal Club, including the Lord Provost and the Secretary, engaged in a four-ball match, the best individual score being that of Mr D. Smythe, with a card of 79.

At the conclusion of the competition, refreshments were served in the pavilion of the Perthshire Cricket Club, when the prizes were presented, and the hope was expressed that the extended green might prove a nursery for the game, and that it might become a benefit to the Fair City.

THE NORTH INCH.

The North Inch has for upwards of a century, been something more than a nursery. Besides being a training ground for the youth of the town, it has been an arena for the display of golfing talent, a scene of combat in which the best exponents have engaged in stern rivalry, and in which many of the natives have won credit to themselves, and upheld the honour of the Ancient Green.

The town owes a debt of gratitude to the Hon. John Dewar (now Lord Forteviot) for his generous gift, and for thus bringing the course up to modern requirements. He has followed in the footsteps of his predecessor of the 14th century, Lord Provost John Mercer of Aldie.

It is not possible for the Town Council or their successors in office, under the new Act, to reward him as that "merchant prince" was rewarded by the Civic Authority of his time, for in 1582 the General Assembly passed an article that "burial in the Parish Church be discharged, and that transgressors be punished," and in 1588 passed a stringent Act, that any minister permitting burial of the dead within the walls of his Church, would be "suspended from the function of his ministry, and the inbringers of the dead shall be suspended from the benefits of the kirk, till they make public repentance therefor."

But while it is not possible that so high an honour as a vault in St. John's Kirk should be conferred upon Lord Forteviot, it is possible to apply to him one of the lines of the inscription on the Mercer tomb, and assure him that while he lives, "he will be held in high esteem by his fellow-citizens."

A meeting of the Royal Perth Society was held on 11th January, 1924, when it was agreed to hold a special golf competition in recognition of the Centenary of the Society, and Sir George Kinloch, Bart., who presided, generously agreed to provide the awards for the occasion; and that the annual dinner should be held in the evening.

CENTENARY OF THE SOCIETY.

It was arranged that the competition should be by foursomes, accord-The date ing to handicap rules. fixed was Thursday, 11th April, and twenty-two couples entered for the The day did not prove altogether favourable for high-class play, being cold with sleet showers. The play was over the North Inch and the Muirton field, and the round consisted of 18 holes. At the close of the competition it was found that the first three couples in order were:-Major H. S. Pullar and Lieut. C. A. H. Hudson, 81 (12), 69; Mr Peter Campbell and Mr Frank Eastman, 79 (7), 72; Rev. T. D. Miller and Mr T. M. Burrell, 84 (9), 75. In the second and third returns two of the three scratch players of the club figured (the other being Mr D. Smythe).

These players have added kudos to the Society, as Mr Campbell in 1928 gained a triple victory in the Royal and Ancient competition at St. Andrews, securing both the scratch and handicap prizes of the meeting. the King William Medal, and the Boomerang, the gift of the Queensland Club, Australia, and also the Jubilee Vase. Mr T. M. Burrell, at Troon in 1923 proved himself the Scottish Amateur Champion. gained besides, at Biarritz, in 1925, a handsome cup, the Championship Memento, which he has presented to Perth Royal Society.

The Centenary Dinner was held the same evening, when there was a large muster of members. Sir George Kinloch, Bart., presided. Mr Norman Boase, then Captain of St. Andrews Royal and Ancient, and Mr Butters, Captain of King James VI. were the guests of the Club.

As there were no reporters present, it is impossible to give an accurate account of the after proceedings, but it is sufficient to give an epitomised and imperfect report of the oratory of the evening. Mr Boase gave the principal toast, "The Prosperity of the Royal Perth Golfing Society," and referred to the mere handful of golfers who founded the Club in 1824, and the success of their efforts

in the succeeding years, and expressed the hope that the club which that day celebrated its Centenary, would continue to prosper.

In a humorous speech, the Chairman acknowledged the toast, and thanked Mr Boase for his presence with them, and for his very kind expressions of congratulation and There had been the goodwill. closest and kindliest relations between the two Clubs from the very earliest years. The honours at St. Andrews often fell to the Perth players, and St. Andrews members often secured the coveted titles at Perth Their first captain, Sir David Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe, was not only one of the Royal and Ancient medalists, but he was also a predecessor of Mr Boase in the Captaincy of the Club.

PERTH AND GOLF.

Mr Norman J. Nasmyth in an interesting speech proposed "The Town and Trade of Perth," which received an official reply from the Hon, John Dewar, the Lord Provost (now Lord Forteviot), who thanked Mr Nasmyth for his appreciation of the work of the Town Council, the Magistrates, and Councillors, was sure they would always do their best to promote the healthy recreation of all the citizens. did not wish to be unduly optimistic, but he believed the trade of the town was gradually getting over the shock it had received during the Great War, and there were brighter days in store for it.

The Rev. T. D. Miller gave "The Kindred Golf Clubs," and stated that there were four clubs carrying on their operation on the North Inch, during the past forty years. These were the "King James the Sixth," the "Licensed Victuallers," the "Artisans," and the "Royal Perth," and they had played amicably together, bearing the burden of the upkeep of the green

unitedly, although the younger Clubs permitted the oldest one to bear the The "King largest proportion. James VI." had fought many battles on the North Inch as the Royal had done, and the players foremost in the fighting line during the last two score of years, were Messrs Dunsmore, Keay, Imrie, Greig, Pirie and Hay Robertson, most of whom had also been prominent in Perthshire cricket.* When James VI. Club left the North Inch and took up quarters on Moncreiffe Island, a new arrangement on the Inch became necessary, and was entered into by " Licensed Victuallers" and "Artisans" and the Royal Society, under Perth Town Council management. Conspicuous on the lists of the Artisan Club was the name of Willie Anderson, father of Joe Anderson, the famous Perth professional golfer and cricketer, who had not only gained a high reputation as a player, but had founded a prosperous sports business and opened a large and well-furnished emporium in the town.

The toast was acknowledged by Mr Butters, the popular Captain of the King James VI., who spoke of the success of the ladies' section, and of the great progress they were making in the acquisition of the game. Songs were sung by several of the members, and in the after proceedings the medals were presented to the winners by the Hon. A. D. Murray.

NEIL FERGUSSON BLAIR'S POEMS.

A MS. volume of poetry and song with the above title, was presented to the Society in June, 1920, by Mr A. G. Heiton. It contains verses in praise of golf, as well as a number of poetic portraits of some of the more prominent members of the Royal Club at the date of writing.

Mr Fergusson Blair had an undoubted talent for versification, and he hits off his subjects with verve and humour, so that their

*In addition to prominent playing members of King James VI. Club noted already, the following deserve "honourable mention," viz., Messrs D. Valentine, A. S. Leitch, J. C. Dow, D. M. Mackay, A. T. Mackay, R. Halley, Walter Anderson, W. Caw, and others of more recent date, worthily upholding the name and playing prowess of the then happy band of young Perth players, who in 1858, formed a new body, and took the old and Royal title of James VI., so much associated was Perth with the leading events of the Scottish reign of that monarch ere succeeding Queen Elizabeth on the English throne.

peculiarities of appearance, habit and style are amusingly portrayed. Although he takes as his motto and the principle in which these sketches of character are delineated, the couplet of Pope:—

"Curst be the verse, how well so o'er it flow.

That tends to make one worthy man my foe."

A few of his portraits are drawn with a none too flattering pencil.

"THE GAME OF GOLF."

In a little poem on "The Game of Golf," he moralises upon the mischances that happen in a round, and declares that it is a true picture of human life, thus—

The game presents to our review Of human life, a picture true, With all its hazards and its woes Which ev'ry Pilgrim's progress knows. Just here and there, a happy chance, Luring us forward in the dance, To find at last the false deceit, And weep that all should be a cheat. For pleasure here is but the dye, That paints the cheek of misery; The face may beam with smiles of art, While sobs beneath a broken heart; The round is life, man is the ball, Fate is the club that drives us all. Some men as balls, more lucky are, And battle through without a scar, While others are the very devil In water, sand, and ev'ry evil For rules of Fate there's no redress. 'Tis not in mortals to command success, But as the noble Roman said, When all was danger, doubt and dread,

A GOLFER'S WINTER WAIL. With shivering step along the Mound, A golfer roamed in woe profound, "My links," he cried, "I cannot trace One feature of thy well-known face. Where now the green? the velvet turf? White as the ocean's breaking surf, As now I gaze upon the scene, And think what is, and what has been, I weep upon thy snow-clad bier And sigh what happiness is here!"

Though Fortune false, our steps beguile,

We can at least deserve her smile.

A VOICE FROM THE LINKS.
Weep not, fond son of Golfer's fame,
Thy face shall yet behold the game;
'Tis sleep not death, once more shall ye,
The struggle for the vict'ry see,
And view as father, son long lost,
Golf resurrected from the frost.

We give two or three of the "sketches of character," which are dedicated "without permission," to the Royal Perth Golfing Society:—

JOHN GRANT.

"Kilgraston's Laird, worst of the bad, To see thee golf, is truly sad! Most players sometimes make a hit, But practice mends thee not a bit! As coachman you could never thrive, For tho' you ride, you cannot drive, But no one this of you gain says, Your perseverance merits praise; Yes, it is certain there doth pant A golfer's spirit in John Grant!"

DR. HENRY MACFARLANE.

(He died after a short illness contracted, it is thought, after playing golf on a wet day, and having failed to change his footwear). Who thunders past upon his hack? The Hotspur of the Links, Young Mac! Leaving the Dead to entomb the Dead, Doffs the black coat, and dons the red; His lather jinks, who waits to prose, Out with the sticks, and off he goes! With joyous air and togg complete, He looks so smiling and so neat; All right just now, but wait a bit, The scene will change before we quit. Did I not tell you? see him now, What frowning looks, what scowling brow. He the mischances of the green Bears not with philosophic mein, But deems his merit is so great Success alone should be his fate. When his opponent stead-ly plays, "It's all good luck," young Hotspur says, If he himself should e'er play badly, O! he abuses fortune sadly, Damning the boy that made the hole, Thus lays the flattering unction to his soul, But when he's fought the eager fight He bears no jealousy or spite, 'Twas but the transitory flash Of loss of honour or of cash.

REV. CHARLES ROBERTSON. (Golfin' Charlie).

And how can I e'er thee describe,
Thou wonder of the golfing tribe:
Unless with zealous hand I took
A leaf out of thine own queer book?
For ar and wide is spread thy fame
As the great Falstaff of the game;
His ever-ready wit is thine;
Like him you love to drink and dine;
And as for honesty! you thief,
Of erring sinners you're the chief:
For well you know that in your play
Stealing's the order of the day:
Then Golfing Charlie, here's your health.
We wish you happiness and wealth!
Long may you live to putt and swipe,
Jest, laugh, and smoke the cutty pipe!

JAMES CONDIE.

Another poem, in the heroic measure, depicts Mr James Condie, who might be called the Nestor of the Society, apostrophising his promising son, George, and urging him to do his utmost to maintain the high reputation of Blackfriars House for golfing talent.

When Father Priam could no longer wield The spear, the bow, the quiver and the shield.

To youthful Hector he the weapons gave, The altars and the household gods to save. So James Condie, when he found that skill No longer came obedient to his will,

That some who used to own his golfing sway.

Laughed at his tread, and would not now obey,

Sent forth young George, his father's house to raise.

And gather fresh, to hide the faded bays; Now, croaked the old man, we shall see some fun,

Surely the rogues shall reverence my son; "Twas no vain hope, the public owned the truth.

Grey hairs gave in before the artful youth, The foeman lost, that whilom beat the sire, One after one before the son retire;

Resign the glory of the ancient game,
And leave him champion on the field of

"Go it my chick of war," the father said,
"Ah! ever thus my youthful footsteps tread,

Lick them all round, since I no longer can, Lick them, brave Bantam, lick them ev'ry man.

I'll quit the links, and take to whist and tea,

Since thus I lick 'em vicariously in thee; But hold, my Hero, do not idly hope That none with thy victorious arms can cope.

This is a Father's fondness for his child, To vaunting never be, but draw it mild, For Hector bullied till Achilles came And dragged his body round the Trojan Plain."

DR. HALKET.

He lived in the Watergate, then the fashionable residence of medical men, as it had been of Scottish Royalty and nobility previously.

And who is this like some huge tower, Or engine of Herculean power, Who strides like Rhodes' Colossus vast. Firm as some admiral's tall mast! 'Tis Halket's portly form, I ween, The smiling Giant of the green. See from the tee his golf ball flies, As if to seek the vaulted skies, While round he looks, with face of joy And smiles upon his caddy boy.

SIR THOMAS MONCREIFFE, BART.

Son of Sir David, whom in bye-gone days Golf's smiling Goddess covered with her bays,

Hail to the links, where on thy father's name.

Was oft proclaimed the champion of the game;

Long may'st thou love the pastime of thy sire

Putt with his truth and smite with all his fire,

The Muse of Scotia's Game is pleased to see

The offshoot springing like the parent tree, For thus she knows her name shall never die.

But age on age, the hand of time defy; Sire after sire, and grandson after son, Through generations be her laurels won!

What follows is addressed not only to Sir Thomas, but to all Golfers.

Well dost thou promise to acquire the skill Which yet thou hast not always at thy will, Heaven! if willing would do any good, Where now we swipe a yard, would swipe a rood;

A golfer never should himself distress, 'Tis not in mortals to command success: To merit it, should ever be our aim, Whether we win or loss the fickle game. Be it a bungle, glad it is no worse, Fight like a fury, and don't give a curse, Patience and shuffle well the changing pack, That is the way to win the honours back. Think because to-day you play the game, 'Tis hard we cannot always do the same; Golf, like valor, it will come and go, But what the reason so, no man doth know, Whether it be the stomach or the brain, The wind, the clouds, the sunshine or the rain.

God knows, we don't, so wonder is all stuff, The Game's inscrutable, and that's enough! Because we miss a ball, should we deplore; Oxford and Francis* missed a coach and

We only miss a small round leather speck, Scarce bigger than the pin in Albert's‡

They couldn't hit two people in a chaise, So henceforth never let a miss amaze.

*Some member who had been at Oxford and Sir Francis Grant, P.R.A.

‡The Prince Consort.

Royal Perth Golfing Society and County and City Club.

LIST OF CAPTAINS.

Sir David Moncreiffe, of Moncreiffe,	1	Sir A. Muir MacKenzie, Bart.,	
Bart		of Delvine	1873-1876
John Richardson, Esq., of Pitfour		James Maxtone Graham, Esq.,	
Patrick Small Keir, Esq., of	1021 1020	of Cultoquhey	
Kinmonth	1829-1830	Sir A. Muir MacKenzie, Bart.,	
Sir David Moncreiffe, of Moncreiffe,	1020 1000		
Bart	1830-1831	of Delvine The Duke of Athole	1880.1883
Patrick Murray Thriepland, Esq.,	1000 1001	The Earl of Breadalbane	1883-1885
Junr. of Fingask	1831-1832	The Marquis of Breadalbane	1885-1886
Junr., of Fingask George Lord Kinnaird	1832-1834	Viscount Stormont	1886-1888
Viscount Stormont	1834.1836	Sir James T. Stewart Richardson,	
The Duke of Buccleugh & Queens-	1001-1000	Sir Robert D. Moncreiffe. Bart.	
berry, K.G	1836-1838		1890-1892
Robert Smythe, Esq., of Methven	1838-1840	James F. Pullar, Esq	
John Grant, Esq., of Kilgraston	1840-1842	Colonel House Domesium and	1004 1005
The Honourable The Master of	1010 1012	Lord Balvaird	1895-1898
Strathallan		Earl of Mansfield	1898-1905
The Honourable Fox Maule, M.P.		Marquis of Tullibardine, D.S.O.	
Sir J. M. Mackenzie, of Delvine,		The Earl of Kinnoull	
Bart		Charles A. Murray, Esq	1909-1911
Sir Thomas Moncreiffe, of Mon-		The Hon. Alexander D. Murray	
creiffe, Bart	1848-1850	R. W. R. Mackenzie, Esq	
Viscount Dupplin		Colonel David M. Smythe, of	
James Condie, Esq			1921-1922
Neil Fergusson Blair, Esq	1854-1856	Sir George Kinloch, Bart., of	
Lord Charles Kerr			1922-1925
Viscount Stormont	1858-1861	Alexander Macduff, Esq., of	
			1925-1928
Lord Charles Kerr The Earl of Kinnoull	1866-1869	Major C. H. Graham Stirling	
William Macdonald Macdonald,		James Simpson, Esq., of Glencarse	
Esq., of St. Martins		Colonel A. M. B. Grahame	

WINNERS OF THE SOCIETY'S GOLD MEDAL.

Played for on the South In	ch-four rounds	Year		Strokes
of four holes.		1842	George Condie, Esq	113
Year	Strokes	1843	James Calvert, Esq	113
1825 Sir David Moncreiffe,		1844	William Keillor, Esq	117
1826 Charles Shaw, Esq., I		1845	James Condie, Esq	115
1827 James Condie, Esq.		1846	Neil F. Blair, Esq	125
1828 James Condie, Esq.		1847	George Condie, Esq	108
1829 John Elrick, Esq		1848	Dr. Henry B. Macfarlane	109
Date of Competition altere		1849	Sir Thomas Moncreiffe, Bart.	109
to September.		1850	Neil Fergusson Blair, Esq	110
1829 John Elrick, Esq		1851	D. Heriot Maitland, Esq	110
1830 James Condie, Esq.		1852	William Condie, Esq	110
1831 Robert Robertson, Es	sq 94	1853	Captain H. Jelf Sharp	110
1832 James Condie, Esq.		1854	George Condie, Esq	112
1833 Hope Grant, Esq., of		1855	William Condie, Esq	114
1834 Robert Oliphant, Yr.,		1856	Captain Maitland Dougal	109
Competition over		Compo	etition altered from September t	
(18 holes)		1857	George Condie, Esq	
1835 James Condie, Esq.	104	1858	Captain Maitland Dougal	
1836 Lyon Campbell, Esq.		1859	Dundas Wigham, Esq	
1837 Captain Hope Grant		1860	No entry.	•••
1838 Thomas Robertson, E	190	1861		00
1839 James Condie, Esq.	106	1862	George Condie, Esq	
1840 Thomas Robertson, E	'an 100	1863	Captain Pratt R. C. L. Blair, Esq	
1841 James Condie, Esq.	116			
TOTI Games Collule, Esq.	116	1864	Major Boothby	105

WINNERS OF THE SOCIETY'S GOLD MEDAL—Continued.

	Competition increased to 24 holes.	Year Strokes
Year	Strokes	1885 Melville Jameson, Junr., Esq 119
1865	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 115	1886 D. R. Irvine, Esq 121
1866	Major Boothby 118	1887 R. C. L. Blair —
1867	George Condie, Esq 113	1888 Melville Jameson, Junr., Esq 121
1868	George Condie, Esq 112	1889 Dr. Robert Stirling 124
1869	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 119	1890 Melville Jameson, Junr., Esq 114
1870	Major Boothby 120	1891 Dr. Robert Stirling 125
1871	Harry V. Hunter, Esq 126	1892 John L. Low, Esq
1872	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 117	Muirton Field added, making 18 holes.
1873	Melville Jameson, Junr., Esq 124	1893 John L. Low 85
1874	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 120	1894 John L. Low 77
1875	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 122	1895 John L. Low 76
1876	Charles Anderson, Esq 122	1896 John L. Low 75
1877	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 126	1897 David Lamb, Esq 82
1878	R. H. Moncrieff, Esq 119	1898 David Lamb, Esq. Revert to 24
1879	Charles Anderson, Esq 115	holes 116
1880	Charles Anderson, Esq 110	1899 G. M. Cox, Esq 116
1881	Charles Anderson, Esq 114	1900 G. M. Cox, Esq 118
1882	Charles Anderson, Esq 111	1901 G. M. Cox, Esq 120
1883	Charles Anderson, Esq 123	1902 G. M. Cox, Esq 114
1884	Melville Jameson, Junr., Esq 116	1903 Maxwell Fleming, Esq 118

WINNERS OF THE PITFOUR MEDAL.

	South Inch.	1866	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 122
1827	Mungo Smith, Esq(16 holes) 95	1867	Harry V. Hunter, Esq 121
1828	John Elrick, Esq 98	1868	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 122
1829	James Condie, Esq 93	1869	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 122
1830	Sir David Moncreiffe, Bart 94	1870	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 120
1831	David Halket, Esq., Surgeon 93	1871	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 131
1832	James Condie, Esq 96	1872	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 125
1833	David Halket, Esq 92	1873	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 125
1834	James Condie, Esq. Competition	1874	Charles Anderson, Esq 122
	on North Inch (18 holes) 106	1875	Charles Anderson, Esq 127
1835	Dr. Henry B. Macfarlane 108	1876	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 122
1836	Dr. Henry B. Macfarlane (20 holes) 124	1877	W. Brand, Esq 129
1837	James Condie, Esq 106	1878	W. C. Raleigh, Esq 121
1838	Lyon Campbell, Esq 117	1879	R. H. Moncrieff, Esq 118
1839	James Condie, Esq 115	1880	G. M. Cox, Esq 120
1840	Charles Robertson, Esq 110	1881	
1841	James Condie, Esq 113	1882	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 119
1842	Thomas Robertson, Esq 117	1883	
1843	Dr. Fraser Thomson 119	1884	Charles Anderson, Esq 117
1844	George Condie, Esq 123	1885	Charles Anderson, Esq 123
1845	Neil Fergusson Blair, Esq 116	1886	Melville Jameson, Esq 124
1846	Charles Robertson, Esq 112	1887	Melville Jameson, Esq
1846	George Condie (Robertson gained	1888	Sir Robert D. Moncreiffe, Bart. 126
7045	Buccleugh Medal) 110	1889	Melville Jameson, Esq 126
1847	Charles Robertson, Esq 116	1890	Captain Dundas 130
1848	George Condie, Esq 110	1891	E. A. Stewart Richardson, Yr., of
1849 1850	George Condie, Esq 111	1000	Pitfour 130
1851	Dr. Fraser Thomson 106	1892 1893	Melville Jameson, Esq 120
1852	George Condie, Esq 104	1999	J. Riddell Webster, Esq., 18
1853	George Condie, Esq 100 William Condie, Esq 108		holes. Muirton Field added to
1854		1894	course 89 Dr. Robert Stirling 84
1855	Thomas Patton, Esq 120 George Condie, Esq 108	1895	James F. Pullar, Esq 86
1856	James Condie, Esq 117	1896	Dr. Robert Stirling
1857	Captain T. R. Boothby 112	1897	James Speid, Esq 89
1858	Peter Brown, Esq 120	1898	John Hill Thomas, Esq. Muirton
1859	10001 D10WH, 1354 120	1000	Field given up, revert to 24
1860			holes 124
1861	Thomas D. M'Whannel, Esq 108	1899	Dr. Robertson 117
1862	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 114	1900	David J. Lamb, Esq 123
1863	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 120	1901	David J. Lamb, Esq 124
1864	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 112	1902	David J. Lamb, Esq 118
1865	T. D. M'Whannel, Esq. (24 holes) 123	1903	W. H. Cox, Esq 126
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WINNERS OF THE "BUCCLEUGH MEDAL."

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Year	D 11 TT 11 . T	Strokes	Year	Strokes
1838		115	1871	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 130
1839	Edward Allan, Esq	110	1872	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 127
1840	Charles Robertson, Esq	95	1873	R. H. Monerieff, Esq 118
1841	David Halket, Esq	116	1874	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 117
1842	David Halket, Esq	112	1875	Charles Anderson, Esq 114
1843	Henry B. Macfarlane, Esq.	106	1876	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 120
1844	George Condie, Esq	115	1877	Charles Anderson, Esq 124
1845	George Condie, Esq	115	1878	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 117
1846	Charles Robertson, Esq	123	1879	Charles Anderson, Esq 113
1847	Dr. Henry B. Macfarlane	104	1880	Robert Gilroy, Esq 114
1848	George Condie, Esq	108	1881	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 116
1849	William Keillor, Esq	107	1882	Charles Anderson, Esq 121
1850	George Condie, Esq	108	1883	Charles Anderson, Esq 124
1851	George Condie, Esq	98	1884	Melville Jameson, Esq 124
1852	George Condie, Esq	102	1885	Melville Jameson, Esq 116
1853	George Condie, Esq	103	1886	Charles Anderson, Esq 114
1854	James Condie, Esq	110	1887	Charles Anderson, Es J 116
1855	George Condie, Esq	111	1888	Melville Jameson, Esq 119
1856	George Condie, Esq	109	1889	Charles Anderson, Esq 126
1857	Captain Boothby	121	1890	Charles Anderson, Esq 120
1858	Peter D. Brown, Esq	116	1891	W. H. Cox, Esq 122
1859	Henry Jelf Sharp, Esq	109	1892	A. G. Morgan, Esq 118
1860	Major Boothby	112	1893	J. L. Low, Esq. (Muirton Field,
1861	Captain Pratt, R.E	106		18 holes) 79
1862	Horace Skeete, Esq	123	1894	J. L. Low, Esq 76
1863	George Condie, Esq	106	1895	J. L. Low, Esq 72
1864	Major Boothby	123	1896	G. M. Cox, Esq 85
1865	Major Boothby	129	1897	Dr. T. M. Robertson (Old Course) 110
1866	T. D. M'Whannel, Esq	124	1898	J. A. Miller, Esq 122
1867	George Condie, Esq	121	1899	J. A. Miller, Esq 122
1868	T. D. M'Whannel, Esq	123	1900	W. H. Cox, Esq 132
1869	R. C. L. Blair, Esq	121	1901	G. M. Cox, Esq 121
1870	Dr. Buist	117	1903	P. W. Buik, Esq
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WINNERS OF THE BOMBAY MEDAL.

1857	Captain Maitland Dougal	124	1880	R. C. L. Blair, Esq 116	
1858	Captain Maitland Dougal		1881	Charles Anderson, Esq 116	
1859	T. D. M'Whannel, Esq		1882	Melville Jameson, Esq 122	
			1883	D. R. Irvine, Esq 125	
1860	J. Watson Lyall, Esq		1884	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 127	
1861	R. C. L. Blair, Esq	117	1885	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq 126	
1862	J. Watson Lyall, Esq	125	1886	James F. Pullar, Esq 118	
1863	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq	119	1887	James F. Pullar, Esq 122	
1864	R. C. L. Blair, Esq	128	1888	Charles Anderson, Esq 120	
1865	Horace Skeete, Esq	130	1889	R. W. R. Mackenzie, Esq 127	
1866	Major Boothby	128	1890	Melville Jameson, Esq 121	
1867	Major Boothby	124	1891	H. Macduff Duncan, Esq 122	
1868	R. C. L. Blair, Esq	124	1892	J. Riddel Webster, Esq 121	
1869	Major Boothby	122	1893	Melville Jameson, Esq. (18 holes) —	
1870	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq	125	1894	G. M. Cox, Esq 81	
1871	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq	131	1895	G. M. Cox, Esq 79	
1872	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq	131	1896	Melville Jameson, Esq 89	
1873	Charles Anderson, Esq	119	1897	G. M. Cox, Esq (24 holes) 115	
1874	Charles Anderson, Esq	119	1898	Major Dundas 125	
1875	A. Burns Macdonald, Esq	121	1899	George M. Cox, Esq 123	
1876	Brand, Junr	122	1900	Melville Jameson, Esq 134	
1877	W. C. Raleigh, Esq	124	1901	John H. Thomas, Esq 124	
1878	Charles Anderson, Esq	121	1902	Henry Bell, Esq 124	
1879	R. C. L. Blair, Esq		1903	John Hill Thomas, Esq	

WINNERS OF GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS FROM 1904 TO 1924.

Date.				Medal.				Winner.
Spring			•••	Society's Gold Medal Pitfour Silver Medal		 	···	P. R. Buik. Maxwell Fleming.
1904— Autumn				Buccleuch Gold Medal Bombay Silver Medal		 		Maxwell Fleming. J. Hill Thomas.
1905				20mout lonvon macaus		 		
Spring	•••			Society's Gold Medal Pitfour Silver Medal	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	 	•••	P. R. Buik. Melville Jameson.
1905— Autumn		•••	•••	Buccleuch Gold Medal Bombay Silver Medal		 		Reverend A. R. F. Hyslop. Maxwell Fleming.
1906—								
Spring	•••	•••	•••	Society's Gold Medal Pitfour Silver Medal		 		G. M. Cox. P. R. Buik.
1906— Autumn				Buccleuch Gold Medal Bombay Silver Medal		 		Reverend A. R. F. Hyslop. Dr. J. L. M. Govan.
1907— Spring				Society's Gold Medal		 		Dr. J. L. M. Govan.
				Pitfour Silver Medal		 		Reverend A. R. F. Hyslop.
1907— Autumn				Buccleuch Gold Medal		 		H. J. Bell.
Autumn		•••		Bombay Silver Medal		 		Reverend A. R. F. Hyslop.
1908— Spring				Society's Gold Medal Pitfour Silver Medal		 		Dr. J. L. M. Govan. H. J. Bell.
1908—								
Autumn	•••	•••	•••	Buccleuch Gold Medal Bombay Silver Medal		 		Dr. J. L. M. Govan.
1909— Spring	•••	•••		Society's Gold Medal Pitfour Silver Medal		 		P. R. Buik. David Mackenzie.
1909— Autumn			•••	Buccleuch Gold Medal Bombay Silver Medal		 		Reverend A. R. F. Hyslop, P. R. Buik.
1910—								
Spring	•••	• • •	•••	Society's Gold Medal Pitfour Silver Medal		 		Reverend A. R. F. Hyslop. H. J. Bell.
1910—								
Autumn	•••		•••	Buccleuch Gold Medal Bombay Silver Medal	•••	 ····		Reverend A. R. F. Hyslop. Reverend John Harrison.
1911— Spring				Society's Gold Medal Pitfour Silver Medal		 		Reverend A. R. F. Hyslop. H. J. Bell.
1911—				Davidson C. 11 W. 1.1				W II C
Autumn	•••	•••		Buccleuch Gold Medal Bombay Silver Medal		 		W. H. Cox. H. J. Bell.
1912— Spring				Society's Gold Medal Pitfour Silver Medal		 		J. Hill Thomas. H. J. Bell.

WINNERS OF GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS—Continued.

Date	Medal.	Winner.
1912— Autumn	TO 1 CUI 34 1 1	H. G. Shields Reverend A. R. F. Hyslop.
1913— Spring—	D'11 C'1 W. 1 1	H. J. Bell. H. G. Shields.
1913— Autumn	TO 1 C11 NO 1 1	H. G. Shields. J. Hill Thomas.
1914— Spring	TO 1 1 7 1 1	H. G. Shields. Major Dennistoun.
1914 Autumn to 1919 Spring 1919—	No Competitions held. The Gr	reat War.
Autumn	011 35 1 1	P. Campbell. H. J. Bell.
Spring	011 35 1 1	P. Campbell D. Mackenzie.
Autumn	01 35 1 1	P. Campbell. H. J. Bell.
1921— Spring		The Hon. R. T. Graham-
1921— Autumn	G 11 W 11	H. J. Bell T. M. Burrell.
1922— Spring	G II W I I	P. Campbell P. Campbell.
1922— Autumn		T. M. Burrell P. Campbell.
1923— Spring	Silver Medal	T. M. Burrell P. Campbell.
1923—	Silver Medal	D. Smythe P. Campbell.
1924—	Silver Medal	H. J. Bell.
Spring	Silver Medal	P. Campbell D. Smythe.
Autumn	C11 34 1 1	F. B. W. Cox. H. J. Bell.

